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The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. XIV. PITTSBURGH, WEDNESDAY MORNING, JANUARY 31, 1877. NO. 122.

The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS.—1. ANY one who takes a paper repeatedly from the Postoffice, whether directed to his name or another's, or whether he has subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

2. If a person orders his papers discontinued, he must pay all arrearages, or the publisher may continue to send it until payment is made and collect the whole amount, whether the paper is taken from the office or not.

3. The Courts have decided that refusing to take Newspapers or Periodicals from the Postoffice, or removing and leaving them uncalled for, is *prima facie* evidence of Intentional Fraud.

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BUSINESS OF PITTSBURGH FOR 1876.

The COMMERCIAL of SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3d, will contain its Eighth Annual Review of the Business of Pittsburgh, in the following Leading Departments:

RECEIPTS OF PIG IRON, IRON ORE AND BLOOMS, with Comparative Tables of the Preceding Four Years.

RECEIPTS OF IRON MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SUPERIOR ORES.

RECEIPTS OF COAL AND COKE, by Monongahela Slack water, from 1844 to date; also, Shipments of Coal and Coke by River and Receipts by Rail.

STATISTICS OF THE OIL TRADE for the past Fifteen Years, with Weekly Price Current of Crude and Refined Oil.

SALES AND RESALES OF PETROLEUM in the Oil Regions.

RECEIPTS OF THE LEADING ARTICLES OF PRODUCE for Four Years past, including Flour, Wheat, Corn, Oats, Rye, Barley, Apples, Cheese, Provisions, Butter, Hay, Potatoes, etc., etc.

GRAIN RECEIPTS at the Pittsburgh Elevator for the past Four Years.

The Statistics of the Iron, Coal, Coke and Oil Trades are Complete and Reliable.

The Prices Current for Crude and Refined Oils are made up from Actual Sales, and will be found useful for those engaged in the respective branches.

Every Business Man should have these Valuable Statistics for reference. An Extra Edition will be printed, but those who desire copies of the Paper should leave their orders at the Counting Room on or before FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2.

☞ ORDERS BY MAIL WILL BE ATTENDED TO.

FIRST EDITION.

XLIV. CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1877.

SENATE.

Mr. Wright submitted a resolution for the Senate to appoint, by a viva voce vote, five Senators and five members of the commission on the electoral count, and gave notice he would call the resolution up at 3:30 to-day.

Mr. Edmunds submitted a resolution authorizing and directing the President of the Senate to appoint two tellers on the part of the Senate to perform the duties required by the Electoral Count bill, which was recently passed. Agreed to.

Mr. Allison submitted a resolution providing that the proceedings before the commission authorized by that bill be printed in the *Congressional Record* from day to day. Laid over.

Mr. Hamlin submitted a resolution instructing the Committee on Rules to inquire and report what, if any, rules should be adopted for the admission of persons to the capitol during the counting of the votes for President and Vice President, and that the committee confer with the Committee on Rules of the House of Representatives. Agreed to.

Mr. Cameron, of Pennsylvania, submitted a resolution directing the Secretary of the Senate to procure one hundred copies of Hicker's Compilation of the United States for the use of Senators, provided the same can be obtained for $1 50 per copy. Agreed to.

Mr. Boutwell, from the conference committe on the bill to perfect the revision of the statutes of the United States, submitted a report, which was agreed to.

Mr. Wright submitted a resolution to print 10,000 extra copies of the message of the President approving the Electoral Count bill. Referred.

A large number of petitions were presented, asking the adoption of a sixteenth amendment to the Constitution of the United States, prohibiting States from discriminating between persons on account of sex.

Mr. Christiancy, in presenting the petition, said he was informed that there was not a single known, confessed, gambler or person of vicious life among the petitioners, and he believed the statement. Observations in Michigan, where over 40,000 votes were given for female suffrage, satisfied him that the people advocating this amendment were among the most thoughtful and intelligent people of the country.

Mr. Sherman, from the Committee on Finance, reported without amendment the Senate bill for the punishment of persons making or having in their possession dies, molds, etc., for manufacturing counterfeit coin. Placed on the calendar.

Consideration was resumed of unfinished business, the bill to amend the Pacific Railroad acts so as to provide a sinking fund for the settlement of the indebtedness due the government by said companies. Mr. Mitchell continued his argument against the bill.

Mr. Thurman followed Mr. Mitchell. He argued that Congress had power to alter and amend the Pacific Railroad acts, and denied that the bill reported by the Judiciary Committee was unconstitutional, or that it impaired any obligations of the contract.

The Senate, at 3:30 P. M., proceeded to select five members of that body to represent it on the commission authorized by the Electoral Count bill. It was ordered that each Senator's name be called, and that he rise in his place and announce the names of five Senators whom he desired to serve on the commission.

Mr. Cragin nominated Messrs. Edmunds, Morton and Frelinghuysen, and Mr. Stevenson nominated Messrs. Thurman and Bayard.

The roll was then called. At the conclusion of the roll call the President *pro tem.* announced that 68 votes had been cast, of which 35 were necessary to a choice, and that Messrs. Edmunds, Morton, Frelinghuysen, Thurman and Bayard had received the unanimous vote of the Senate, and had therefore been chosen as members of the Electoral Commission. The only Senators absent and not voting were Messrs. Dennis, Eaton, Hamilton, Harvey, Howe, Norwood and Prior.

Mr. Hamlin, from the Committee on Rules, said the committee had met with the House Committee on Rules in regard to some rule governing admissions to the capitol during the count of the electoral vote, and he had been directed to report a concurrent resolution directing the Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate and House of Representatives respectively to appoint fifty men to serve as special policemen at the Capitol during the canvass of the vote for President and Vice President, or for such portion of said time as they be deem necessary, the expense to be paid weekly from the contingent fund of each House. After some discussion the resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Hamlin explained by saying that it was well known to all that the police force of this city was demoralized, and the object of appointing these special policemen was to have them to look after the light-fingered gentry who would be here.

The Secretary of the Senate was directed to advise the House of Representatives of the action of the Senate in selecting members of the commission under the Electoral Count bill.

Mr. Sherman submitted an amendment to the bill in regard to a sinking fund to pay the indebtedness due the Government from the Pacific Rail Roads, so as to provide that the Central and Union Pacific Roads shall pay into the Treasury to the credit of such sinking fund twenty-five per cent. of their whole net earnings, provided the amount in any one year shall not exceed $1,500,000, and the amount thus paid in shall be in lieu of the five per cent. of the net earnings and one-half of the amount earned for transporting mails, &c., paid into the Treasury under existing law. Ordered printed.

The Chair laid before the Senate a message from the President, calling the attention of Congress to the necessity of continuing the board for testing iron and steel, and recommending an appropriation of $40,000 to continue such board. He speaks of the value of the experiments, and refers to the Ashtabula disaster as an instance where a calamity might have been averted by a more thorough knowledge of iron, &c. Ordered printed and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

The Senate went into executive session and when the doors were reopened adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The bill appropriating $500,000 to be paid to Mr. James B. Eads for the construction of the Mississippi river jetties, etc., passed.

The Speaker laid before the House the bill abolishing the Board of Commissioners of the Metropolitan Police of the District of Columbia. The question was put, "Shall the bill pass notwithstanding the President's veto?" and was decided in the affirmative by a vote of 158 yeas to 78 nays.

The Speaker laid before the House a message from the President vetoing the joint resolutions returning thanks to the Argentine Republic and the Republic of Liberia, South Africa, for their congratulations to the United States on the first centennial of its freedom. His reason for vetoing the resolutions is that under the Constitution Congress cannot dictate to the Secretary of State what correspondence he shall hold with foreign States. Referred.

The Speaker also laid before the House a message from the President, stating that the commission appointed to reorganize the army had reported that it was not at this time prepared to submit a plan for its reorganization. Referred.

Mr. Payne offered a resolution that the House elect five members of the Commission on the Presidential Election Count. Adopted.

Mr. Lamar nominated Messrs. Payne, Hunton, Abbott, Garfield and Hoar, and to save time moved that the five should be voted for together.

Mr. Buckner objected and demanded a separate vote.

The Speaker ruled that the matter was in the power of the House. He submitted the question and the House decided, 210 to 20, to vote on all five at the same time.

The Clerk then proceeded to call the roll, and each member responded after repeating the five names in their order. Some of the Republicans changed the order, commencing with the Republican candidates. The vote as finally announced was as follows: Payne 263, Hunton 259, Abbott 262, Garfield 238, Hoar 261. Three votes were given for McCrary, of Iowa, by Messrs. Buckner, Cutler and Smith, of Georgia, four for Foster, of Ohio, by Messrs. Cook, Hartridge, Hereford and Roberts, one each for Mills, Singleton and Blackburn, by Mr. Hooker, one for Lynde, by Mr. Magoon, two for Willard, by John Reilly, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Henkle, one for Townsend, of New York, by Mr. Ferry and one for McCook, of New York, by Mr. Wells, of Mississippi.

The Speaker thereupon announced the appointment of Messrs. Payne, Hunton, Abbott, Garfield and Hoar.

On motion of Mr. Payne, the Speaker was authorized to appoint two tellers who are to count the Presidential vote on the part of the House.

The House then took up the bill reported at the last session from the Committee on Judiciary, in relation to damages for infringment of patents. It provides that damages can only be recovered for infringments which shall have occurred during the term of one year preceding notice of infringment. Passed.

Mr. Cox offered a resolution directing the Judiciary Committee to inquire into the propriety of reporting a bill on amendments to the Constitution, if necessary, providing for the decision of any questions which may arise as to the regularity or authenticity of returns of the electoral votes for President and Vice President, or the right of persons who give votes or the number in which they ought to be counted, and that such law or amendment provide for jurisdiction as well as the course of proceeding in all cases of real controversy. Referred.

The House then took up the resolution reported from the Judiciary Committee, declaring that Colorado is a State of the Union, and James B. Belford has been elected a Representative from that State.

Without action, adjourned.

CRIMES AND CASUALTIES.

On Monday night an unknown man was run over and killed by a steam dummy running between Cleveland and Newburgh.

Albert H. Prince and Joseph Palmer, who were detected stealing on Monday, on the Boston and Albany Railroad, leaped from the train. Palmer was killed and Prince disabled.

The jury in the case of Joseph T. Dengler, ex-cashier of the Pennsylvania National Bank, Pottsville, charged with the embezzlement of $8,000, brought in a verdict of guilty.

Edgar M. Moore, a young man eighteen years old, who has been on trial in St. Louis for the past several days for shooting Mabel Hall, an actress at the Theatre Comique, with whom he was in love, some months ago, was convicted of murder in the first degree. The jury recommended him to the mercy of the court, and his counsel will move for a new trial.

A special dispatch from Steubenville to the *Evening Chronicle* states that on Monday night the police surprised two brothers named James and George Dobbs, in the act of robbing a store on the corner of Adams and Seventh streets. They attempted to escape and were fired upon. The former was shot in the neck and mortally wounded. The latter was shot in the arm. It is believed that other robberies will be traced to them.

Arthur B. Wood, Chief of the Consulate Bureau of the State Department, has returned from a secret mission to Europe, where he made a rigid inquiry into the affairs of the consulates in the principal seaports of Great Britain, France and Germany. The result is that a number of importers in New York and other cities are to be promptly prosecuted, revenue officers removed and consuls, in the conspiracy to defraud the Government, will be dismissed in disgrace.

A gang of five insurance policy swindlers has been broken up by the arrest yesterday, in New York, of William S. Hale, of Plainfield, N. J. The swindling firm of which the accused is a member, was that of Hale, Whitney, Potter & Co., having an office at 176 Broadway. Over fifty victims have been swindled out of sums ranging from $500 to $25,000. The firm represented itself as agent for the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, a corporation entirely unknown to insurance men.

Lieutenant John Weedon, of the United States Engineer Corps, was found near midnight on Monday night lying dead on a sofa in his room in San Francisco. Near the body were found two empty bottles that had evidently contained chloral hydrate. No one was admitted except General Alexander, of the engineers, the physicians and a few friends of deceased and the Government. The circumstances and cause of his death are as yet unknown, all parties being very reticent. It is understood that he left a letter for his sister, Mrs. Commodore Maury, but none of its contents were divulged, and no clue given for the supposed suicide.

On Monday a gentleman called on the President of the East River Bank, New York, stating that his name was Cryus G. Clark, took from his pocket a number of Central Pacific Railroad bonds expressing a face value of $21,000, and on these he asked a loan of $12,000. The President asked to have them left for examination, and gave the man $950, the latter promising to call in the morning for the remainder. Afterwards the bonds were found to be forged, and the matter was reported to the police, who arrested Clark yesterday. He stated that he found the bonds lying on the sidewalk at Ann street and Broadway, about three weeks ago.

About two months ago Professor Edward L. Seymour, evidently a gentleman of unusual linguistic attainments, arrived in St. Louis from Chattanooga, Tenn., or Atlanta, Ga., and took rooms at 63 South Second street.

On Monday night he was found dead in a chair in his room, with his throat cut in a frightful way, so that his head was almost severed from the body and hanging over the back of the chair. The deed was done with a razor, and six terrible gashes had been cut deep into the neck. He had not been seen since Sunday afternoon, and it is therefore not known when he committed the act. An examination of his effects and diary disclosed the fact that he had been in great pecuniary distress, which was doubtless the cause of his death. He was a portly man, nearly sixty years old, and from entries in his diary it is thought he had a wife in New York.

Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, January 30.—In the House, bills were introduced to-day to remunerate sheep owners for sheep killed by dogs; providing that persons convicted of murder in the first degree may be imprisoned in the penitentiary for life; for the valuation of property in 1878, and every five years thereafter; to make seven per cent. the legal rate of interest; to punish adulteration of articles of food. The Senate commenced the trial of the contested election of Joseph Cox *vs.* Hudson Harmon, the point at issue being the right to hold the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of Hamilton county.

Why Is It Done?

Why do millers order their paper bags printed to imitate White River bags. Something is wrong. Consumers cannot be too careful when they buy flour.

HARRISBURG.

Proceedings of the Legislature.

Ventilation Bill Favorably Reported.

Capital Removal Bill Indefinitely Postponed.

A Number of Bills Passed Finally.

Local Option Bill to be Reported To-day

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

HARRISBURG, PA., January 30, 1877.

SENATE.

The Senate met at eleven A. M.

Senator Gazzam presented a petition favoring the passage of a bill for the relief of the Western Pennsylvania Hospital.

The Ventilation bill was reported favorably from the Committee on Mines and Mining.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Gazzam, for the relief of the Sixteenth Ward Hospital. This bill repeals the fourth section of the law of 1874, which prohibits endowed institutions from receiving money from the county treasuries.

By Mr. McNeill, an act relative to commitments by courts of quarter sessions to the county workhouse.

By Mr. Clarke, authorizing courts of common pleas to direct the holding of inquests in cases of a lunatic or habitual drunkard by a probationary and jury drawn from the jurors in attendance.

By Mr. Greer, providing for the election of county marshal in counties containing over forty thousand inhabitants.

By Mr. Bates, empowering defendants to testify in criminal cases.

By Mr. Wright, preventing county superintendents of common schools from managing or teaching school. Passed.

By Mr. Butterfield, relative to the appointment and duties of the Supreme Court reporter and publication of the reports of said court.

By Mr. Dunkel, prohibiting any person from being at the same time interested in or be both contractor and surety, counties and sureties for any officer thereof.

Ten minutes recess was taken, when the Senators shook hands with Secretary of War Cameron, who was on the floor.

The following bills passed finally:

A supplement to an act, entitled an act dividing the cities of this State into three classes, regulating the charges of contractors providing for contracts of supplies and work for said cities, authorizing an increase of indebtedness and the creation of a sinking fund to redeem the same as that with Pittsburgh, punishing certain offenses in all of said cities, and providing for the incorporation and government of cities of the third class, approved May 23, A. D. 1874.

A supplement to an act, entitled an act providing for the election of aldermen and justices of the peace, passed the 21st day of June, 1859, fixing the time for the expiration of their offices.

An act regulating the publication of legal notices.

The following passed second reading:

An act defining the limitation in prosecutions for forgery.

An act to prevent delay in the review of capital offenses in the Supreme Court.

Pending a discussion on the constitutionality of an act requiring the mayors of cities of the first class to appoint the city and election polls, and prohibiting the sheriff of any county to appoint any deputies to be present at any election polls, the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

The House met at ten o'clock.

Mr. Long introduced a bill preventing be admission of minors to billiard saloons and ten pin alleys in cities of the third class.

The Capital Removal bill was discussed at length and indefinitely postponed by a vote of 128 yeas to 58 nays. A motion to reconsider this vote was made and lost, which settles the question for this session.

Several bills were considered on second reading.

The following bills were introduced:

By Mr. Heisey, empowering the Sheriff and Prothonotary of Armstrong county to sue for their fees.

By Mr. Hitchcock, supplement to the act regulating elections.

By Mr. Edge, supplement to the act establishing a State Board of Agriculture.

By Mr. Walter, increasing the amount of pensions of soldiers of 1812 or their widows.

The Vice and Immorality Committee this afternoon agreed, by a vote of 11 to 9, to report to-morrow the local Option bill. Four of the committee are absent.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Details of Latest News Received by Steamer at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 30.—The steamer Belgic has arrived, bringing the following news from China and Japan:

SHANGHAI, January 3.—The Boston bark Milo has been wrecked off the Chinese coast, near Amoy, and is a total loss. The Captain and crew were saved.

There are new reports of a disaster to the army of General Tso, fighting against General Yokaub Beg.

A Chinese steamship line is to be established between Shanghai and Japanese ports.

Copies of the Government proclamation respecting the terms of the Yunan settlement are publicly posted throughout the Empire in accordance with stipulations of the Chefoo Convention, in spite of an announcement to the contrary.

The United States Consular postoffice will be continued at Shanghai.

The first instalment in the payment of the Woosunz Railroad, 95,000 taels, has been delivered by the local authorities.

A severe rinderpest prevails in Mongolia.

YOKOHAMA, January 12.—The agrarian disturbances has ended, and tranquility prevails everywhere.

The long disputed subject of licenses to foreigners for shooting is now settled. Permits are granted at a moderate charge, and in case of violation of the conditions fines are imposed. It is noticed among the public publications announcing this arrangement that the United States Minister alone recognizes the Japanese law, and enjoins obedience to it.

A decree of the Mikado announces the reduction taxation upon farmers' produce throughout the Empire. It has been hitherto fifty and a half per cent. on the value of the lands, and henceforth will be two and a half per cent. The reduction amounts to sixteen million dollars a year. The General Government receives annually millions and local governments eight million. A supplemental decree enjoins strict economy in public administration.

A volcano on Vries Island, at the entrance to Yeddo bay, always smouldering, is now in active eruption. The Emperor was to visit the ancient capital of Kesto January 22d. The Empress and Empress dowager were already there.

POLITICAL.

A Tallahassee special says the Florida Assembly has passed a bill to pay the Democratic Presidential electors.

The New York Senate yesterday adopted resolutions, 19 to 12, declaring that Hayes and Wheeler had been legally elected President and Vice President, and should therefore be inaugurated.

The Connecticut House yesterday, on motion of a Democratic member, adopted unanimously a resolution declaring the thanks of the General Assembly to the President for his approval of the electoral bill, and cordially indorsing his message.

Congressman Piper, of the San Francisco district, has written a letter to Horace Davis, Congressman-elect, stating his intention of contesting the election on the ground that Davis received over 9,000 fraudulent votes, having been cast on certificates of enrollment and the names of voters not entered on the great register. He also alleges that Davis received 4,000 votes cast by parties non-residents.

Senator Harvey withdrew from the canvass for the United States Senatorship before the Kansas Legislature yesterday morning, and three ballots were had. The last and fifteenth was as follows: Plumb 57, Osborn 41, Simmons 29, Sears 27, Martin 8 and Shannon 1. It is believed there will be an election to-day and that the contest will be between Plumb and Osborn, but there is some talk of bringing out a new man.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Indications for To-Day.—In Tennessee and the Ohio Valley, falling followed by rising barometer, warm southerly winds, veering to cooler westerly or northwesterly, partly cloudy weather and possibly occasional rain.

The second bankruptcy of J. B. Ford & Co., the New York publishers, which was announced Sunday, is simply a legal form for completing the settlements of the first.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

Information About New Treaties.

That With Spain Entirely Satisfactory

Inter-Oceanic Canal Treaty With Nicaragua.

The President Thinks the Work Will be Completed Within Ten Years.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1877.

The New Spanish Treaty.

The Committee on Foreign Relations, at their next meeting, will take up for consideration the new Spanish treaty, which will be submitted to them in a few days. A printed copy of the treaty, the main features of which have been fully anticipated in these dispatches, has been furnished to each of the members of the Senate committee for their information. A prominent member of the committee stated today that its provisions were very satisfactory, and more so as an indication of the friendly relations existing between the Cabinets of Washington and Madrid. The opinion was expressed that the committee would accord their prompt approval, and that it would be as promptly ratified by the Senate.

The Inter-Oceanic Canal Treaty

With Nicaragua has not yet been signed, though copies have been furnished to the Senate committee, and the finally executed document will be transmitted in a few days. Don Adan Cardenas, the Nicaraguan Commissioner, is still in the city, and as soon as the treaty is signed will depart for Nicaragua to secure the necessary ratification of the Nicaraguan Senate, which will be in session next March. An abstract of this treaty has already been given in these dispatches. It guarantees the right of way for an inter-oceanic canal to be built by such nations, and insures the neutrality of the canal and as well the neutrality of a range of ocean covering one hundred and sixteen marine miles, so that in case of war all vessels within this range will be free from attack. A treaty has also been negotiated with the Costa Rican Government, through Senor Don Vincente Dardon, this being in reference to account of the abutment of some of the dams of the canal being on Costa Rican territory. The features of this treaty are practically the same as that with Nicaragua. The President, in speaking of the inter-oceanic canal project, said today that this enterprise had engaged his attention for many years. He first suggested it to President Johnson during the first year of that Administration. He also had a conference on the subject with Secretary Seward on the subject, but Mr. Seward manifested but little interest in it, and finding that nothing could be done at that time, he made no further move. Since then he has kept matters together and enlarged his information on the subject as best he could as General of the Army. When he attended the Executive office he immediately set in motion a proper plan of obtaining authentic data. He had the most complete and exhaustive surveys made of the Isthmus of Panama and Darien, the Tehuantepec and Nicaraguan route. He said that the Panama route was impracticable for a railroad, but presents many disadvantages for a canal; that slackwater navigation would be impracticable, on account of the mountain streams in the line; besides, they could not get a canal up high enough to get over the streams. He said that the Nicaraguan route afforded an inexhaustible supply of water, besides every topographical advantage, and after a careful examination of all the routes surveyed, had been selected as the most feasible in regard to the territory within which this canal would probably be built, he remarked that the favorable recognition which it had received from the Government of the World, he had no doubt that within the next ten years the work would be consummated.

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30, 1877.

THE LOUISIANA INVESTIGATIONS.

The Committee on the Powers, Privileges and Duties of the House in counting the electoral vote to-day recalled Lewis M. Kenner, of the Louisiana Returning Board, who testified as to a vacancy in the Louisiana Returning Board. Dr. Kennedy, proposed to fill it, was a Democrat, and a man of fair standing in the community. Wells and Anderson were against Kennedy. Witness knew Hayes was elected by throwing out votes. The votes were thrown out on counting, on the evidence of intimidation, driving them from the polls and from their crops, and therefore the board thought they were justified in doing so. We had some testimony of persons who voted the Democratic ticket through fear. Witness thought there were ten instances in which affidavits of intimidation, &c., came in with the returns; some of the other affidavits came from persons afraid to make them in their respective localities, owing to rumors and information privately received in New Orleans; know nothing about counting where there were one or two instances of little disturbance; believe there were some affidavits concerning such disturbances; think the charges of bribery, such as giving voters suits of clothes, or shoes, but could not tell how many men told him they had been driven from their honor; don't remember the name of the first original return having been altered, nor had he the knowledge that the board had any consultation on that subject, or that there was any desire to alter the vote. No member thereof, or under their direction or knowledge; there was no concealment from the Democratic committee of any purpose before the board, and the accounts of the proceedings were published in the newspapers.

Littlefield, clerk of the Louisiana Returning Board, testified before the Morrison House committee to-day that on the 3d of December he altered the original returns from two of the polls in Vernon parish, so as to transpose 178 Democratic votes over to the Republican candidates; that he did this by the express direction of Governor Wells, and that after making copies of the altered original returns he delivered them for the originals, the latter were burned either by himself or Governor Wells, he did not remember which, but at all events with Governor Wells' knowledge.

General Huribut, of Illinois, cross-examined Littlefield, and elicited from him answers from the stenographer's notes of yesterday, which witness is recorded as having then made, he asked him how it was that his answers of yesterday and to-day did not agree. Witness stated that he did not make answers yesterday as claimed, but that he refused to answer all questions, and he stated here, as he did at the beginning of his direct examination, that he made no such answers on his examination yesterday as reported.

Ex-Governor Kellogg was briefly examined concerning the electors of Louisiana. He had no personal knowledge of Levisee being United States Commissioner and Hewster Attorney General at the time they were voted for, but he knew they absented themselves from the college, and that the other electors filled the vacancies. Kenner and Casanave, both of the Returning Board, were before the committee this afternoon. The examination of the former resulted in his being compelled to produce a private memoranda taken by himself in the board during the addition, compilation and statement of the returns. The memoranda showed numerous precincts thrown out on alleged grounds of intimidation, violence, etc. There was nothing in the memoranda about Vernon parish, witness saying he made his notes of the proceedings only while he was present at the board.

J. T. Littlefield was recalled. His testimony was in all substantian points similar to that previously given before Morrison's committee. He said that yesterday when he appeared before the committee he had taken no legal advice, but since then he had a conference with an attorney who informed him that he could tell the whole truth if he did so under protest, otherwise he would have to bear the burden of suspicion in abstracting the original return of Vernon parish. Mr. Field asked witness to look at a paper marked "S," and he answered after a slight inspection that it was the same paper that was before the Returning Board. Witness, in reply to questions, said he was requested by Governor Wells to transpose the returns of two polls, taking votes from the Democrats and giving them to the Republicans, polls two and nine. The number of votes thus transferred was 178. The original figures were erased and those required written in their places. By Mr. Field—What motive did Governor Wells assign for requiring you to make the change? A.—To elect Hunter Judge, Andrews District Attorney and Keller State Senator, the parish being in the Judicial district in which Governor Wells resided. Q.—Was one of the persons named James Andrews, who refused to accept the office on the ground that he was not fairly elected? A.—I presume so, from the fact that he was candidate for District Attorney. Mr. Field exhibited certificates of election of two friends of Wells, Hunter and Kelso, which witness believed to be genuine. By Mr. Field—When the change of figures was accomplished in the way you mention, what became of the original papers from Vernon parish? A.—I was instructed by Governor Wells to bring him two state documents accompanying the consolidated statement. I gave them to him the day after the official promulgation. He was about to put them into his pocket, when I asked him whether it was not indiscreet to do so, and he said I was right in reminding him. Whether he or I destroyed them I cannot say, but I saw them burned. As to the original statement of the poll of Vernon parish with the alterations now before him, Governor Wells told me to destroy or make way with it. I felt I had done a little too much already, and took the paper home for the purpose of destroying it, but did not. I communicated these facts to Mr. Spearing, my uncle, and gave him the paper to be used by him and others in whom confidence could be placed, to be used in behalf of the Nicholls government, which Spearing supported, and thought that Nicholls was elected Governor. I requested of him that my name should never be known in this transaction, and that I should not be summoned to testify. I gave him the paper in New Orleans. The last time I saw the paper was in the office of Governor Palmer at Springfield, it having been conveyed thither by Spearing. From that time to this he had never seen the paper. He was produced yesterday before the committee. Q.—Describe the occasion and circumstances of Governor Wells asking you to alter the returns. A.—On Sunday, the 31 of December, the board and three or four of the clerks took dinner together. They sat at dinner three or four hours. From there we went to the rooms of the Returning Board. After being there a few minutes I saw Governor Wells looking over some papers and figuring. We were feeling happy; I know I was. In a few moments Governor Wells engaged with me in a whispered conversation, and told me to alter the vote. He asked me to have it done that night, but I didn't do it that night. Subsequently Governor Wells said it was well done; witness here showed how the alterations were made. Witness, continuing, said: Wells asked me the same night to make a change in the electoral vote. Wells was examined by the committee which went to New Orleans. Wells afterward told me he was asked by commissioners how returns from Vernon parish were received, and in consequence he felt very uneasy. He first said to me, 'Can't you make a copy of the original?' Find out what will pass as an aggregate, and we will reject some." He then said "We will have affidavits prepared," meaning affidavits showing why the returns from Vernon parish were rejected. The affidavits were sworn to before United States Commissioner Jewell; each affidavit was sworn to by three persons. I recollect the names of two persons who swore to them, namely: Jim Brown, Sam Collins and Samuel Carter. They made their marks. I do not know whether there are two Jim Browns in Vernon parish. The affidavits were dated, I believe, November 14, 1876, and came into the office of the Board on the 18th or 19th of November. Mr. Fenner, Governor Wells spoke about forging the name of Thomas Franklin? A.—He asked me to practice so I could make the signature to the return the same as that with Delacroix. The President, in speaking of the inter-oceanic canal project, said today that this enterprise had engaged his attention for many years. He first suggested it to President Johnson during the first year of that Administration. He also had a conference on the subject with Secretary Seward on the subject, but Mr. Seward manifested but little interest in it, and finding that nothing could be done at that time, he made no further move. Since then he has kept matters together and enlarged his information on the subject as best he could as General of the Army. When he attended the Executive office he immediately set in motion a proper plan of obtaining authentic data. He had the most complete and exhaustive surveys made of the Isthmus of Panama and Darien, the Tehuantepec and Nicaraguan route. He said that the Panama route was impracticable for a railroad, but presents many disadvantages for a canal; that slackwater navigation would be impracticable, on account of the mountain streams in the line; besides, they could not get a canal up high enough to get over the streams. He said that the Nicaraguan route afforded an inexhaustible supply of water, besides every topographical advantage, and after a careful examination of all the routes surveyed, had been selected as the most feasible in regard to the territory within which this canal would probably be built, he remarked that the favorable recognition which it had received from the Government of the World, he had no doubt that within the next ten years the work would be consummated.

THE LOUISIANA INVESTIGATIONS.

The Committee on the Powers, Privileges and Duties of the House in counting the electoral vote to-day recalled Lewis M. Kenner, of the Louisiana Returning Board, who testified as to a vacancy in the Louisiana Returning Board. Dr. Kennedy, proposed to fill it, was a Democrat, and a man of fair standing in the community. Wells and Anderson were against Kennedy. Witness knew Hayes was elected by throwing out votes. The votes were thrown out on counting, on the evidence of intimidation, driving them from the polls and from their crops, and therefore the board thought they were justified in doing so. We had some testimony of persons who voted the Democratic ticket through fear. Witness thought there were ten instances in which affidavits of intimidation, &c., came in with the returns; some of the other affidavits came from persons afraid to make them in their respective localities, owing to rumors and information privately received in New Orleans; know nothing about counting where there were one or two instances of little disturbance; believe there were some affidavits concerning such disturbances; think the charges of bribery, such as giving voters suits of clothes, or shoes, but could not tell how many men told him they had been driven from their honor; don't remember the name of the first original return having been altered, nor had he the knowledge that the board had any consultation on that subject, or that there was any desire to alter the vote. No member thereof, or under their direction or knowledge; there was no concealment from the Democratic committee of any purpose before the board, and the accounts of the proceedings were published in the newspapers.

Littlefield, clerk of the Louisiana Returning Board, testified before the Morrison House committee to-day that on the 3d of December he altered the original returns from two of the polls in Vernon parish, so as to transpose 178 Democratic votes over to the Republican candidates; that he did this by the express direction of Governor Wells, and that after making copies of the altered original returns he delivered them for the originals, the latter were burned either by himself or Governor Wells, he did not remember which, but at all events with Governor Wells' knowledge.

General Huribut, of Illinois, cross-examined Littlefield, and elicited from him answers from the stenographer's notes of yesterday, which witness is recorded as having then made, he asked him how it was that his answers of yesterday and to-day did not agree. Witness stated that he did not make answers yesterday as claimed, but that he refused to answer all questions, and he stated here, as he did at the beginning of his direct examination, that he made no such answers on his examination yesterday as reported.

Ex-Governor Kellogg was briefly examined concerning the electors of Louisiana. He had no personal knowledge of Levisee being United States Commissioner and Hewster Attorney General at the time they were voted for, but he knew they absented themselves from the college, and that the other electors filled the vacancies. Kenner and Casanave, both of the Returning Board, were before the committee this afternoon. The examination of the former resulted in his being compelled to produce a private memoranda taken by himself in the board during the addition, compilation and statement of the returns. The memoranda showed numerous precincts thrown out on alleged grounds of intimidation, violence, etc. There was nothing in the memoranda about Vernon parish, witness saying he made his notes of the proceedings only while he was present at the board.

J. T. Littlefield was recalled. His testimony was in all substantian points similar to that previously given before Morrison's committee. He said that yesterday when he appeared before the committee he had taken no legal advice, but since then he had a conference with an attorney who informed him that he could tell the whole truth if he did so under protest, otherwise he would have to bear the burden of suspicion in abstracting the original return of Vernon parish. Mr. Field asked witness to look at a paper marked "S," and he answered after a slight inspection that it was the same paper that was before the Returning Board. Witness, in reply to questions, said he was requested by Governor Wells to transpose the returns of two polls, taking votes from the Democrats and giving them to the Republicans, polls two and nine. The number of votes thus transferred was 178. The original figures were erased and those required written in their places. By Mr. Field—What motive did Governor Wells assign for requiring you to make the change? A.—To elect Hunter Judge, Andrews District Attorney and Keller State Senator, the parish being in the Judicial district in which Governor Wells resided. Q.—Was one of the persons named James Andrews, who refused to accept the office on the ground that he was not fairly elected? A.—I presume so, from the fact that he was candidate for District Attorney. Mr. Field exhibited certificates of election of two friends of Wells, Hunter and Kelso, which witness believed to be genuine. By Mr. Field—When the change of figures was nothing about the Whitthorne affair at witness' request or with his knowledge. Talked about the Whitthorne business with various persons, as to Whitthorne's personal habits, but had nothing to do with the police force; had understood that Whitthorne's habits were bad, and so may have smiled when Murtagh asked witness about him; thought Whitthorne was exposing himself to exposure, and thinking some subordinate would take advantage of the opportunity, communicated with a member of Congress, who showed us his influence in warning Whitthorne to be careful if there was any necessity; did this not for any feeling toward Whitthorne, but out of respect for himself [witness]; had no knowledge that Dana was being shadowed by policemen when here; had no conversation with Murtagh about it at the time, as he scarcely knew him then; heard after Dana's arrest that he had been watched; it was rumored in the Navy Department that Whitthorne would be exposed, or that he was being watched or something of the kind; it was among the possibilities that he [witness] had had such conversation with Murtagh as given in his testimony about not exposing Whitthorne while he was in office, but witness could recollect nothing of it.

THE OREGON INVESTIGATION.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections continued the investigation of the Oregon electoral case this evening. William H. Hollister, cashier of the banking house of Kountze Bros., New York, testified that he has known J. H. N. Patrick, of Omaha, for several years; he knows Erwin Davis; understands he is a man of wealth and leisure. On the first of December last $8,000 was deposited with Kountze Bros. by a stranger, who represented the deposit to be made by E. Davis, the $8 000 was in large bills, and placed to the credit of J. H. N. Patrick. Witness was asked if he knew E. Davis, and replied, I know Erwin Davis. The sum of $8,000 was not deposited for Erwin Davis. On the 19th of December, $1,039 in gold was deposited in Kountze Bros.' bank by Charles Dimond, of New York, subject to the order of J. H. N. Patrick, and it is still there. The bank of Kountze Bros. paid a draft of $8,000 on the 15 n or 16th of December in favor of Wells, Fargo & Co., witness did not know whether the money was paid to Wells, Fargo &

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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31, 1877.

If it be true, as is generally believed, that Governor TILDEN sent DAVID DUDLEY FIELD to Congress to help him to the Presidency, it was a mighty poor investment.

THE Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL'S interest in the Tennessee public debt could not be more intense if it were a paid attorney for the bondholders.—*Memphis Avalanche.*

Until you duttered we had no idea you were so badly hit.

THERE are indications that Germany will become from year to year a heavier customer in the grain markets of the world. The growing insufficiency of grain crops to meet home consumption gives rise to much anxiety in Berlin.

THE strong, saving common sense of the American people is our "best holt." Amid all the political uncertainty and doubt it is doubly pleasant to notice the steady strength of our national securities both at home and abroad.

In the Russian technical schools, designed to be the very best possible, and which are controlled by the Imperial Government, a large amount of American machinery is in use. This is a high compliment to our inventors and manufacturers.

THE life insurance interest is just now under a severe pressure, occasioned on the one hand by the general distress, and on the other by the failure of a number of companies, which has impaired confidence. The value of the system, however, is proven by the fact that during the past two years there has been paid out for death losses more than forty-seven millions of dollars by American life insurance companies.

IF THE New York city government is not made more economical it will not be for the want of counsellors. The latest move in this direction is an attempt of the merchants to take the control of the expensive and badly managed wharf system out of the hands of the politicians, and place it where it will be more directly administered in the interests of the commerce of the port. They have tried to accomplish something of the kind often before, however, but the Tammany tricksters have uniformly got the better of them, as they doubtless will this time.

JUDGE DAVIS has written a letter to a friend in Illinois in which he expresses a determination to accept the Senatorship. Of course. No one believed he had the least idea of refusing it; and as the term of this accepted Senatorship begins on the fourth of March, his acceptance will vacate his judgeship on the third of that month. The little game of holding on to the judgeship until after the fourth will therefore hardly win. His resignation is not needed to vacate the judgeship. The two offices are incompatible, and the judgeship will be vacated when his Senatorial term begins.

IT is pretty evident that an extra session of the Forty-fifth Congress will have to be called. The bulk of business before the present Congress yet unacted upon is larger than at any corresponding time in previous sessions. Both Houses have been closely occupied with the discussion of political questions, and the public interests have consequently been delayed. Less than thirty working days remain in which to count the electoral vote and pass the necessary appropriation bills, and it is likely that a number of important measures will be postponed or hurried through in a condition not at all creditable to the country.

THE refusal of Judge DAVIS to serve on the juggling commission ties the four judges up, in choosing a fifth, to a choice between Judges SWAYNE, BRADLEY and HUNT. There is, unfortunately, but little choice between them, so far as the Republicans are concerned. HUNT is CONKLING'S man and comes from CONKLING'S town, which is rather a questionable recommendation; BRADLEY joined in the decision declaring the enforcement acts unconstitutional, and SWAYNE is TILDEN'S pal, his partner in railroad speculations, his guest whenever he goes to New York, and his strong personal friend. The best of this lot is BRADLEY, and it is sincerely to be hoped that Judges MILLER and STRONG will in no event agree to SWAYNE.

OUT in Ohio the great panacea for all woes is just now considered to be compulsory education, which is about to become a law. It is supposed to be a Republican measure, but it does not strike us in that light. Prohibition and compulsory education encounter one common difficulty; before a community can enforce, it must have reached a condition where practically it does not need them. A belief in the all-mightiness of civil government is the great heresy of a free people. They see that laws against murder and theft do, to a great extent, prevent those crimes, and conclude that similar results would follow if the Government would take hold of all subjects in morals and business. But they forget that just in proportion as the arms of government are multiplied and extended, each separate arm grows weaker; or that, in the desperate attempt to strengthen them, the central power grows too strong for the liberty of the citizen.

DURING the administrations of PIERCE and BUCHANAN, the man in the North who believed in humanity and refused to accept the infamous Fugitive Slave law as a revelation from heaven, was denounced as a Disunionist, and every man who refused to turn blood-hound and hunt fugitive slaves was unpatriotic. Patriotism and devotion to the Union, then, consisted in yielding to all the demands of the South; and any degradation, no matter how loathsome, which the South demanded was justified upon the plea that it was necessary to keep the Southern *Hotspurs* from dissolving the Union. We seem, for the moment, to have got back into that same old atmosphere, so heavily charged with political carbonic acid gas. He who is willing to set aside the Constitution is now a patriot and an independent statesman; while he who upholds the plain letter and spirit of the Constitution is set down as a selfish partisan. Let us thank heaven that this unnatural condition cannot last long.

THE present indications are that the Sultan will still remain in camp at Constantinople, a perpetual challenge in the heart of Europe which none of the Great Powers dare to accept, for the reason that each of the latter is unwilling he should yield his place to either of its rivals. Russia would soon try to sweep him off into the Dardanelles, and the Czar did not well know that Queen VICTORIA stood behind the former with a bigger broom. For Christian England, which sends missionaries to convert the Mohammedans in Asia, also sends cannon and balls to maintain Moslem rule in Turkey, since she cannot allow the enemy that she must meet on the plains of Asia to take possession of her roadway to India. Hence the Sultan is maintained in his anomalous position by the balancing fears and rivalries of two or three great powers, and it seems likely that the Turkish mosaic of ignorance and corruption, made up of the incongruous outcast nationalities of modern Europe, will remain stranded until it is removed by some political convulsion or is consumed by its own rottenness.

INTELLIGENT SUFFRAGE.

The *Methodist Quarterly Review* of January contains an able editorial article advocating an amendment to the Constitution which shall base suffrage on intelligence; and the religious newspapers follow this up with learned leaders upon the necessity for "intelligent suffrage" and the duty of preventing the ignorant from controlling the action of the Government.

All of these articles read well, and, in a general way, command the assent of all who read them; but they all deal in mere generalities, and evade the practical point of pointing out some specific method of carrying their views into operation. Any amount of platitudes can be indulged in about "intelligence," and "virtue," as well as about "sound judgment" and "wisdom" in politics; but these are but "glittering generalities," which determine nothing and have no meaning capable of specific application. For, what is "intelligence," and how is it to be judged of as a test of the right of suffriage? How is a voter's "intelligence" to be ascertained, and who is to pass upon his possession of it? How much "intelligence" is to be required, and what is the voter to be "intelligent" about? Intelligence may be said to possess both quantity and quality; and, if it is to be a test of qualification, both the quantity and quality of it must either be defined specifically, or every election officer must be set up as a judge upon the intelligence of every one who offers to vote.

In Connecticut, we believe, a voter must be able to read and write. That is the test to which every voter must submit; but it is plain to every observer that while the great bulk of the community can both read and write, in a general sense, there are comparatively few who can read and write well; and if a larger number can do both well, by far the largest number are very poor bunglers at either. A man may be able to read and write, after a fashion—that is, he may be able to read or spell off a clause in the Constitution, and write his own name or what will pass muster for it; but it does not follow that such a man is intelligent, or that this is suffrage based upon intelligence.

Yet what other legal rule than this can be framed? It is impossible to establish, with anything like precision, before any legal tribunal whatever, the *degree* of any man's intelligence. Many men may be considered intelligent, in a certain sense—that is, they may know certain things that enter into human experience—who yet can neither read nor write; and many other men, who can both read and write, are yet nearly as ignorant as horses, and go through life without turning their little knowledge to any practical account. Intelligence is a subtle element, entirely too impalpable for demonstration; and we know of no earthly tribunal that is competent to decide whether a man has enough of it to control him in determining how or for whom he should vote. It is impossible, therefore, to make intelligence a basis of suffrage. We can make a test of certain forms or manifestations of intellegence; but such a test will just as certainly fail to secure intelligent voting as does our present system of universal suffrage.

It would be a good thing if all our voters were intelligent; it would be a still better thing if they were all conscientious and upright in the use they might make of their intelligence in exercising their right of suffrage; but we should all make a sad mess of it when we came to sit and decide upon either the conscience or the intelligence of a voter. There would not, in such a case, be a single election board in the country that would not be tyrannically oppressive in the use of its inquisitorial function.

When men propose political remedies, let them, above all, be practical in what they propose. It is trifling with a grave subject to deal with it, as these literary quacks do with the electoral franchise, in broad generalities which have no definite or specific application. We, too, believe in intelligent suffrage and conscientious voting; but we do not believe we have secured either by indefinite talk about them, nor do we believe that the mere ability to read and write carries with it any assured degree of intelligence. Many a thoroughly ignorant and vicious man has been brought up to the polls in Connecticut and made to cast off a paragraph in some book which he has learned by rote, and to write his name in an illegible manner; and the adoption of the same rule, elsewhere, will be followed by precisely similar results. Either give us something better than the Connecticut test—something that is practical and easily comprehended, or cease talking altogether about impracticable generalities.

THE urgent recall of General GORDON from London, *en route* to this country, by he Khedive, mentioned in yesterday's able dispatches, would seem to indicate that the latter proposes to push his plan of territorial expansion. In the event of war between Turkey and Russia it is quite possible that the Khedive will make a strong effort to sever his vassal relation to the Sultan. This is a source of constant embarrassment, with no compensating advantage. The tribute is a heavy tax, and the obligation to furnish a contingent of fifteen thousand men to the Turkish army in time of war, and to pay their expenses when in service, is a yet greater burden. As the Khedive does not participate in the Imperial Government, he should not be responsible for its mistakes or be involved in its crimes and misfortunes. If common sense had ruled the late conference at Constantinople, the independence of Egypt would have been insisted on as necessary to the welfare of its people. Why should a government that is conducted on comparatively civilized principles be linked with one that lives on shams and pretexts, and sets at defiance the laws of justice and humanity? The two countries are widely different, and cannot safely be subjected to the same system. The Sultan rules over forty races in his widely-extended domains, of different religions, customs and languages, while the Khedive's subjects speak the same language, and are almost entirely of the same stock. The former is surrounded by hostile Christians States, his yoke is odious to all his Christian subjects, and his occupancy of Constantinople is a perpetual barrier to modern civilization and progress, while the latter has no conterminous enemies, is in sympathy with the age, while Christians and Mussulmans alike prosper under his rule.

CRAB-FACED Indiana at length talks of abolishing the color line in her common schools, and certainly it is high time that this were done. The present discrimination is unjust and a violation of the spirit of the Constitution, which guarantees equal rights to all. Great injury, moreover, is done to the health of the colored children, who are now compelled to walk long distances, often in inclement weather, to the schools set apart for them, while within sight of their homes are large school buildings with many seats unoccupied. Then, too, the proposed change would be beneficial to the colored children in arousing their ambition and developing their self-respect, and in no way detrimental to the whites. It would also render the colored people free to choose a place of residence most convenient to their work, instead of forcing them, as now, to cluster together in remote parts of the cities, adjacent to their schools; and finally, it would save the taxpayers a large amount of money now used for the purchase of grounds, the erection of buildings and all the appliances necessary to carry on separate schools.

IT is well known to our readers that, while the House of Representatives, by a decided vote, instructed its Judiciary Committee to report an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the payment of rebel war claims, it is now also known that this vote was merely for buncombe, and was intended only to deceive, for the committee has, so far, refused altogether to make such report, and has not the slightest purpose to comply with the hypocritical orders of the House. The fact can no longer be concealed that the Democracy, both in and out of Congress, is in favor of paying rebel war claims, and this fact has just been made apparent by a harmless looking bill, which the President has concluded to veto. It originated in the House and was sent to him last week. It was a bill authorizing a claimant, named WARRING, of Savannah, who had not filed his claim within the time prescribed by law, to put his case before the court. The bill came from the Democratic side, and the report accompanying it was not of a character to make its bearings very clear, and it passed both Houses. On reaching the President he had the matter examined, when it soon appeared that it would be a precedent for sending claims to the amount of $25,000,000 or $30,000,000 before the Court of Claims. The election of TILDEN, it is now clear, would be followed by the assumption of this large class of debt, in spite of his protestations to the contrary made when he was a candidate.

THE *Post* thinks the President's message to Congress announcing his approval of the Presidential draw poker bill, "will be accepted with more earnest and widespread approval than anything that has fallen from his pen since he entered on his civil career." It is not a little refreshing to note the saintly fervor which just now animates the leaders of the Democratic party, in connection with "The Plan," particularly when it is remembered that that party has always and everywhere been the party of reaction and obstruction, of depression and debasement; that it has always and everywhere opposed, and if possible defeated, every proposition and every measure designed to make politics more pure and honest, and civil life more honorable and upright, whether relating to naturalization, registration and voting; to finance, education, temperance; to moral and benevolent institutions or to religious societies, always excepting one of the latter from the ignorance, bigotry and intolerance of whose members it derives much of its support.

THE Young Men's Mercantile Library is one of the most attractive places in the city and no stranger should neglect to pay it a visit. Our more refined and intelligent citizens take just pride in showing their friends from abroad what a storehouse of literary wealth our people possess, and there is no place in the city where sojourner or citizen can spend an hour more pleasantly or profitably. The Librarian, JAMES M. MACRUM, Esq., has shown himself a most competent and affable officer, and a gentleman with whom it is a pleasure to hold converse. His fine literary taste, his scholastic attainments, and his wide acquaintance with books and authors, ancient as well as modern, qualify him in an eminent degree for a satisfactory discharge of the duties of the office, and render his judgment and counsel invaluable in matters concerning the welfare of the institution.

THE New Jersey Mutual Life Insurance Company has concluded to quit business, and has reinsured all its policyholders in the National Capitol Life Insurance Company at Washington. That is, it has transferred its assets to the latter company, and the National Capitol Life Insurance Company becomes responsible to the holders of the New Jersey Mutual policies. Whether the holders of these policies will be any securer by the change remains to be seen. One thing only is certain, that the mortality among life insurance companies is growing to be frightful.

THE Chester county Republican papers all condemned the action of Senator EVERHART, of that county, for voting with the Democrats in favor of the compromise Presidential juggle. Their Republicanism is much better than his.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

After the battle's through,
Waiting the Lottery Day;
Rather scooped out, the Blue—
Top of the heap, Rutherford.

Texas birds have learned to dig for grasshopper eggs, which they devour with avidity.

A Philadelphia barber has struck the road to fortune, by simply advertising a "silent shave."

A proposed innovation in the New England fishing business is the change from sailing to steam vessels.

Beecher's publishers have gone into bankruptcy again, this time with liabilities of $95,000 and assets of $34,000.

Snow in the mountains all through the Pacific slope mining districts is very light this year, especially so in Idaho and Montana.

Lord Palmerston's comment on the Eastern question in 1828: "It is always said that the Turks are obstinate in November and tractable in March."

The population of California increased by immigration last year, 55,000. The class of immigrants most needed is farmers and stock raisers.

The Canadian Welland Canal improvement is being pushed vigorously, but it will take two or three summers more to deepen the old cut to correspond with the new.

Some cynic says that he hates a girl when she is trying to be a woman, and a woman when she trying to be a girl. And yet everybody exhorts a boy to act like a man.

The fact that we pay millions of dollars yearly for foreign flax, which can easily be grown here, is stimulating its production in the Mississippi Valley and on the Pacific coast.

The Oregon farmers are very busy preparing their ground for a large crop of wheat, and twice the amount will be put in this year over that of any former season.

A Missouri court has decided that a woman's leg is worth $12,000, on account of its use. If the feminine leg is so valuable what estimate should be put upon the feminine tongue?

The latest use to which paper is put is that of a protector of ships' bottoms. Experiments show that when a cement of waterproof paper is employed, it is the best and cheapest material for protecting iron.

They are boring a tunnel mine through the very backbone of the Rocky Mountains, and find good ore at a depth from the topmost point greater than has been attained by any other mine in this country.

Work is waiting for mechanics at Caracas, capital of Venezuela. A company has undertaken the reconstruction of the city under Government patronage, and some Delaware workmen have already gone down.

Hard times. One of the principal New York hotels closed last week, to be made over into "flats" for families, and several others will be compelled to take down their signs and shut up shop if the present stringency continues.

The new Doomsday Book of Great Britain and Ireland gives the population of the United Kingdom at 28,000,000. The number of inhabited houses is 5,212,932, and there are 72,117,766 acres of assessable land in the kingdom.

There is a great deal of feeling in Boston in regard to the manner which the committee adopted to secure the "free-will offering" at the dedication of the Moody Tabernacle. There seems to have been a good deal of bulldozing.

Block Island, off the Rhode Island coast, is the only place in New England, if not in the whole Northern States, which has been without good sleighing, the present winter. Plenty of snow has fallen, but it has thawed quickly or blown into the sea.

A Block Islander (Narragansett bay) has found 1,230 gallons of kerosene floating in the sea, enough to light the island for a year, and he has sold it at auction for twenty-five and thirty cents a gallon, and holds the money for the owner of the vagrant fluid.

At the very time that our remarkable shipments of muskets and munitions of war are being made to Turkey, news comes from Birmingham, England, whose principal industry is the manufacture of rifles, that never before at a time of impending war was business so dull.

The ultra party in the Southern Presbyterian Church are strongly opposed to fraternity with the Northern Church. The New Orleans Presbytery resolves that "to require our church to negotiate on the basis of reciprocity would require what in the case is impossible."

Have a smoke? Twenty-five gills of fluid nicotine were recently captured at the London Custom House, being the essence of 2 500 pounds of tobacco sweepings mixed with alcohol. The intention was to use it as a ready means of converting early York cabbages into the finest Havana tobacco.

If any one has doubts of the genuineness of half and quarter dollars, not his own, he can apply to them a drop of a mixture of twenty-four grains of nitrate of silver in crystal, fifteen grains of nitric acid and an ounce of water. If bad, the coin will turn black; if good, no effect will be produced.

Louisiana is a failure. It has been settled for upwards of half a century, and yet less than one-third of its area is occupied as farms or plantations, while one-thirteenth part is improved. All this in a State which claims the best site for a city in the world, and cotton and sugar lands to make men's fortunes.

California will have no difficulty in exporting every pound of her surplus productions this year at the cheapest sort of rates for freight. There are now in port at San Francisco thirty-four disengaged ships with a tonnage of 41,000, and a fleet having a tonnage of 150,000 is loading for that port or is already on the way.

A new use for the public lands in the grasshopper districts has been discovered out West. Minnesota wants the proceeds of the sale of such lands in the States and territories invaded by the grasshopper, devoted to the payment of bounties for the destruction of the pestiferous insects and their eggs. But how shall we insure a fair count?

The English institution of game preserves is introduced into this country by a sportsmen's association in Schuylkill county, this State. They have leased 3,000 acres of forest, field and stream which they will stock with birds and fishes. They pay each of the fifteen farmers who own the land $5 a year, and divide the proceeds of fines for "poaching" with the farmer on whose territory game is killed.

PERSONAL.

A patent medicine man, formerly immensely wealthy, is now begging on the streets of New York.

A touch of Raleigh's exquisite courtesy was the other day shown by a New York laborer who placed his wooden shovel across the car tracks to enable a lady to cross without wetting her feet.

The poet T. B. Aldrich is in a position to answer the Tupperian question, "What is fame?" A Washington newspaper reprints some of his verses, and owlishly credits them to "T. Baldrick."

"Who wouldn't be an actor?" Mr Boucicault has received, for playing *Conn* in his play of the "Shaughraun," $157,000 for 216 performances at Wallack,s, New York; $29,000 for four weeks in Boston; $27,000 for four weeks in San Francisco; $12,000 for two weeks in Philadelphia. With the proceeds of his London engagement the total is over $300,000.

That is a queer lawsuit which is reported from Loogootee, Indiana, and one discouraging to school-ma'ams, unless the suit terminates with a big verdict for the plaintiff. It appears that a pretty teacher at the town named, who attempted to rattan a male scholar of twenty-one, was taken up tenderly and kissed, whereupon she instituted the suit for damages. It is, possibly, too bad to allow damages for a kiss, but if some precedent of the kind is not established, what is a poor little school-ma'am to do?

ST. PAUL, MINN.

ST. PAUL, MINN., January 22, 1877.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

As your readers may take an interest in knowing that the report of the Knee Joint Commission for the settlement of the Presidential muddle is received throughout the country, I will tell them how the matter is received here.

The Democrats who feel that Hayes will certainly be proclaimed and inaugurated President, unless some plan is devised to count him out, indorse the compromise as the last hope of their cause, especially since they think that the four judges named are rather favorable to their side. Those Democrats who are for Tilden or blood are opposed to it, but the number is small.

The business men, who are generally neutral on politics and religion, who care nothing for the form of government under which they live, and who usually ask how a matter will affect business instead of asking is it right, indorse it, since they view it altogether as a matter of dollars and cents.

The Republicans, who are confident that Hayes is elected, generally view it as the result of bulldozing, and brought about by the bluster of the rebels, by which they have scared the Republican Senators into it.

Another class of Republicans, who, rather than have a fight, would give the Government into the hands of the Democrats even though they recognize the fact that all the charges of fraud and violence are true, favor the compromise because they view it as a peaceful solution of a very unpleasant affair. In short, the Republicans generally oppose it because they feel certain that Hayes is elected and will be inaugurated, whilst the Democrats generally favor it because they know that without it they have not the ghost of a chance. The Republicans, as a general thing, look upon the exclusion of Judge Waite as an outrage, and feel that the Republicans on the committee committed a blunder, and as a general thing they mistrust Judge Davis, and are opposed to his having anything to say in the matter.

After all, the thing will have to be decided by the fifth judge; and if it has to be decided by one man, why not let the Vice President do it? I look upon the whole thing as subversion of the rights of the people. If anybody had a right to settle the dispute, besides the Vice President, it was the people in the disputed States; and their voters, well guarded, so a fair ballot could be had, would have been much more rational, and would have kept our Supreme Court out of politics.

A. P. H.

Instructive Statistics.

A large amount of useful information has been added to the current miscellany since the the great Brooklyn calamity. Architects, builders, fire wardens, Boards of Supervisors, City Councils, and history-compilers, have all been busy examining into the causes of danger, suggesting remedies to avoid it, and ascertaining the number of accidents and lives lost for the want of greater safety. Among those who have busied themself to enlighten the public is Dr. J. M. Toner, of Washington. He contributes a paper to the *Press* in which he notes, following list of "terrible events," and the loss of life resulting:

Church of St. Sophia, Constantinople, A. D. 532; St. Paul's, London, 1135; St. Paul's and many other churches, London, 1666; Drury Lane Theatre, London, 1672; the Flemish Theatre, Amsterdam, 1772, 700 lives; Trinity Church, NewYork, 1773; the Saragossa Theatre, 1777, 400 lives; the theatre at Montpelier, 1783, 500 lives; London Bridge, 1813, 3,000 lives; Chestnut Street Theatre, Philadelphia, 1820; Park Theatre, New York, 1821; Bowery Theatre, New York, 1828; theatre in Canton China, 1845, 2,300 lives; Niblo's Theatre, Few York, 1846; Church of Santiago, Chile, 1863, over 2,000 lives; Niblo's Garden, New York, 1872; Saragossa Theatre, 1872, 600 lives; and the Fifth Avenue Theatre, New York, 1873. The latest report gave the number of the lost by the Brooklyn Theatre fire as 384.

A copy of the compromise bill should be sent to Seth Kinman, hunter and trapper, San Francisco. Kinman is the Presidential chairmaker. In 1857 he presented Mr. Buchanan with a chair made of elk horns and hoofs; in 1864 he sent President Lincoln one very nearly like it; Andy Johnson received one made of grizzly, bearskins and claws, and President Grant has one that is a marvel of workmanship, being composed of horns, claws, and tusks. For the last few months Kinman has been at work on a chair for the centennial President. It is nearly like the one sent to President Johnson, but underneath the seat is a ferocious-looking head of a grizzly bear, which can be thrown forward by a spring, and the jaws made to snap viciously. Kinman don't know who to send this chair to, and is anxiously awaiting the count of the electorial vote. It is not known weather he approves the compromise bill.

MAGAZINES FOR FEBRUARY.

GODEY'S LADY'S BOOK.

The February issue of this, the oldest and best of American fashion publications, contains a judiciously arranged series of sketches, poems, fashion articles, household receipts, etc., with a number of engravings, including one on steel. The *Lady's Book* is now in its ninety-fourth volume, and retains its popularity with the fair sex as an authority on all questions of what to wear and how to wear it. It is published by Louis A. Godey, Philadelphia, at $3 00 per year, with a hand some picture premium. W. A. Gilden Feeny & Co., No. 75 Fifth avenue, have it on their counters.

BALLOU'S.

The February number of *Ballou's Magazine* is a capital one, full of stories of rare interest, and illustrations that would be creditable to any publication in this country. There is such a variety in *Ballou's* that the people like it, and will buy it no matter how hard the times are or the attractions which other serials present. One of the stories alone is worth the price of the magazine, and then in every issue can be found a dozen or twenty tales which can always be read with pleasure, not to mention the poetry, and household articles, and humorous cuts, which will tell their own story. Published by Thomes & Talbot, Boston.

HON. J. MILTON TURNER, for six years America Minister to Liberia, does not encourage the emigration of the negro to that country. The climate of West Africa is dangerous to foreigners, not so much on account of the heat as from the marshy nature of the region. Rank vegetation fills the air with malaria, and fevers of a malignant type prevail. Mr. Turner is of the firm conviction that the American negro can reach his highest usefulness in the United States. Here, in his home for many generations, he is thuroughly acclimated, and suited to the circumstances by which he is surrounded. Let Liberia find her mission in establishing schools and appliances of civilization among the aboriginal inhabitants on the coast.—*Philadelphia Press.*

At Chicago, last year, there were twenty-four violent killings, twenty-two of which were drunken murders.

S. M. Pettengill & Co.,

Advertising Agents,

37 Park Row, New York.

Desire to Call the Attention of Business Men, who wish to reach the Reading Public, to the following

FACTS:

1. They have been in the Advertising business for nearly thirty years, and give it constant attention and study during that time.
2. They have had, and continue to have, cordial business relations with all the newspapers and other periodicals in the United States and Canada.
3. Their record with all these publications is one of fair treatment, honorable dealing and prompt settlements.
4. In consequence of this, they can always have advertisements inserted at the publisher's lowest rates.
5. They are so acquainted with the entire press of the country that they can select the *best mediums* for any given purpose.
6. Having done advertising for all kinds of business, and noted the results to their customers, they suggest valuable suggestions as to the *size, style and position* which will make the most effective advertisement for the object to be attained.
7. Having frequent orders for a large number of papers, they can, in most cases, get the work done for *less cost* than the advertiser would have to pay if he sent the order direct.
8. They examine all papers, note all omissions or irregularities, secure the strict fulfillment of every stipulation of the order, and submit full files for the inspection of the advertiser.
9. They give the advertiser the full benefit of the facilities and of their supervision *without charge*, a commissions being paid by the publishers.
10. They submit estimates for any given list of papers, or for properly covering any given district.
11. For a systematic working up of any large enterprise, they assist in the preparation of circulars, pamphlets and general reading matter, in addition to newspaper advertising.

They invite all from having any parties who contemplate advertising in any way or for any amount.

S. M. PETTENGILL & CO.,

37 Park Row, New York.
701 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.
Centennial Grounds, Philadelphia.
10 State Street, Boston.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

No. 61 Fourth Ave., Pittsburgh.

CHARTERED IN 1862.

BOARD OF MANAGERS.—George A. Berry, President; John Scott, Jas. Park, Jr., Vice Presidents. A. Brahm, C. A. Hinkley, Geo. Gross, W. M. Nimick, John S. Dilworth, F. Rahm, G. Follansbee, Robert C. Schmertz.

Chas. G. Milnor, Secretary and Treasurer.
SOLICITOR—John H. Bailey.

DRY GOODS

James Caldwell & Co.

ARE NOW OFFERING,

AT

VERY LOW PRICES,

A Large Stock of

DOMESTIC & HOUSEKEEPING

GOODS.

9-4 and 10-4 Brown and Bleached Sheetings of all the popular makes.

9-8, 5-4 and 6-4 Pillow Case Muslins.

Fruit of the Loom, Bay Mills, Lonsdale, Wamsutta, Pride of the West and New York Mills Shirting Muslins

Good 4-4 Bleached Muslin from 6 1-4 to 9c.

Brown and Bleached Damask Table Linens, Towels and Napkins.

A Choice Stock of Hamburg Embroideries.

Marsailles Quilts, Honey Comb and Croquet Quilts very cheap.

New and very Choice Styles in Shirting Prints Cambrics and Percales.

Prints, Chintzes and Ginghams.

Black Cashmeres and Merinos.

Silk Warp Henrietta Cloths.

Cloaks and Furs at very Low Prices, to close out our Winter Stock.

115 and 117

FEDERAL ST.,

ALLEGHENY.

Prize MEDAL Awarded. Filled with Key West Cuttings.

PRIDE OF THE NORTH

THE LEADING FIVE CENT CIGAR.

GUMPERT BROS.,

CIGAR MANUFACTURERS,

1341 CHESTNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA.

MWF

R. H. PALMER & CO,

"LIMITED,"

SUCCESSORS TO R. H. PALMER,

WILL CONTINUE THE

Hat, Cap and Fur Business

AT

No. 151 Wood Street,

AND THE

STRAW, MILLINERY,

AND FANCY GOODS BUSINESS

AT

No. 105 Market Street.

DRY GOODS

1877.

WM. SEMPLE,

New Goods, New

IN

We take special pleasure in inviting the attention of purchasers to a new and complete line of

Black Cashmeres

we have just opened, in all the different and various qualities, lowest to very finest grades, in Wool, All Wool and Silk Warp, and offered at quite a reduction in prices from former goods.

Black Dress Silks.

And to another opening to-day of Black and Colored Dress Silks, offered at prices making them Special Good Bargains.

☞ The previous line of these goods having been so highly appreciated and proven such a success, we are pleased to announce in our new Silks, if anything, still better value.

New Suitings, &c.

We have the following additional bargains now on our counters, which are all New Goods lately opened.

At 10c, Plain and Plaid Knickerbocker Suitings.

At 8½ and 10c, new Poplin and Wool Plaid Suitings.

At 12 1-2 Cents,

New Styles Fresh Dress Goods.

At 22 and 25c, new Basket Suitings, formerly 37½ and 50c.

At 15c, Wool Striped Oversuitings.

Serges and Brocades.

Also, a new line, opened to-day, in Single and Double Serges, All Wool Striped Satteens, All Wool Striped Brocades, Striped and Plain Cashmere Suitings, together with new novelties in French, English and American Dress Fabrics of new designs, at extremely

Low Prices!

Extra good bargains in Black Alpacas and Mohairs, of new and superior makes.
New Goods arriving daily.

☞ Each of our Departm

1877 1877

$8.00

THE

Pittsburgh Commercial

FOR 1877.

SUBSCRIPTION PRICE REDUCED

TO

EIGHT DOLLARS.

Cheapest Business Paper in the State.

UNSURPASSED AS A

POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL

AND

General Newspaper.

THE PITTSBURGH DAILY COMMERCIAL, from and after the 1st of January, 1877, will be mailed to subscribers, in the United States, at EIGHT DOLLARS per annum, postage prepaid. The paper, which has heretofore so freely found its way to the business office of the Banker, the Merchant and the Manufacturer, and has so firmly maintained its character as a medium for the dissemination of reliable information concerning Financial and Commercial affairs, will commend itself more largely to all classes of traders, now that the price has been so materially reduced. It is not only the purpose of the management to keep the Business Department of the COMMERCIAL fully up to the standard of past years, but to improve them, from time to time, by introducing such new features as the necessities of trade and a proper regard for the interests of the patrons may require.

IN POLITICS

The COMMERCIAL will endeavor to pursue the same course which has characterized it in past years. It will support Republican principles, always exercising the right to differ from party measures which do not meet its approval, and to condemn the acts of party friends when those acts do not comport with its sense of right and justice. It will remain faithful to the great principles upon which the Republican party was based, and will espouse the cause of no clique or faction. The grave questions which now agitate the country, and which must in due time reach a proper solution, will be discussed in a way that will be full of interest to the general reader, and will be calmly and dispassionately, but firmly, considered by the COMMERCIAL.

THE NEWS DEPARTMENTS

Will be fully up to the demands of the reading public. In addition to the comprehensive and accurate reports of the Associated Press, giving the news from all parts of the world, arrangements have been made for Special Telegraphic and Mail Correspondence from the National and State Capitals, and from other important centers.

In the department devoted to the publication of Local News will be found a complete daily history of the city and its various interests, given by a corps of careful writers and set forth in attractive style.

THE MARKETS

Will, as heretofore, receive careful attention. Full telegraphic reports of the State of Business, with Prices Current, will be received daily from the Trade Centers of this country and Europe. The Pittsburgh Market, in all its branches, will be reported fully and accurately. As a commercial journal the COMMERCIAL stands second to no paper in the country.

The Financial Column will give daily the ruling rates for money and the prices of Stocks and Bonds at all the great trading points, with much interesting statistical matter.

INTERESTING MISCELLANY,

Embracing Poems, Sketches, Incidents of Travel, etc., will find a place in the columns of the COMMERCIAL, furnishing abundance of instruction and amusement for the family circle.

TERMS FOR THE

Daily Commercial.

Postage Free to Subscribers

By mail, per annum	$8 00
By mail, for six months	4 00
By mail, for three months	2 00
By mail, for one month	75
By the week, payable to agents or carriers	15

THE WEEKLY COMMERCIAL!

A PAPER FOR
THE FARMER,
THE MECHANIC.
THE MANUFACTURER,

Will contain in condensed form all the

NEWS OF THE DAY,

Including the Proceedings of Congress and of the Legislatures of Neighboring States, Interesting Correspondence, Choice Selections and

Complete Weekly Market Reports

SPECIALLY PREPARED FOR IT.

☞ The WEEKLY COMMERCIAL will be sent

Postage Free to Subscribers.

Terms for 1877.

WEEKLY COMMERCIAL.

(POSTAGE PREPAID.)

One Copy, One Year.....$1 75

CLUB RATES.

Ten Copies, per annum, each.....$1 50
Twenty Copies, " and over, each.. 1 25
And One Extra Copy to the getter up of Club.

Additions may be made to a Club at any time during the year, at the Club prices. The subscriptions continuing a FULL YEAR from the time the additions shall have been made.

These prices are invariable.

Terms—Cash in advance. Remit in Drafts or Postoffice Money Orders, if possible, and where neither of these can be procured send the money in a REGISTERED LETTER.

☞ SPECIMEN COPIES SENT FREE.

Address all orders and letters to

"THE COMMERCIAL,"
PITTSBURGH, PA.

DRY GOODS

Wednesday,

165, 167 & 169 F

OFF

ERS

w Attraction

THE FO

Opening to-day, a new and large assortment of Ladies, Misses, Children, Gents and Boys'

Boots, Shoes, Gaiters,

Slippers, Gum and Arctic Overshoes, in all grades and styles, at much less than usual prices. New and Choice Assortment of

White Goods

of all kinds. Corded White P. K.'s from 11c up, and all at very lowest prices.

New Cloaks added daily to our stock, so that each garment is new and fresh and in latest seasonable styles, and all marked unusually low.

☞ We are just in receipt of a large and new line of WHITE

Muslin Underwear,

&c., consisting of Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Skirts; Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Waists; Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Chemises; Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Pants; Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Night Dresses; Plain, Tucked and Embroidered

Infants' Robes,

Plain, Tucked and Embroidered Short Dresses, made in the best possible manner, of the best qualities of muslins, in great variety, and at prices rather lower than usual.

Suits and Costumes.

Ladies' Black and Colored Suits.
Ladies' Overdresses and Costumes.
New and Fashionable Shawls.

Blankets, Quilts, &c.

New and Fresh White and Colored Blankets, Comforts, Coverlets, Quilts, &c., at very low prices.

Gents' Ready Made Clothing in latest styles, at reduced prices. Fresh and complete stock.

ents is at present unusually a

JOSEPH HO

MARKET

HAVE NOW OPEN AN

FALL AND AU

FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC DRY GOOD COTTON AND WOOLEN GOODS, BAREY, STRAW AND SILK GOODS, VELOWN IMPORTATION, BLACK AND CO CLOSE CASH AND SHORT TIME BU VANTAGE TO EXAMINE OUR STOCK

WHOLESALE

INSURANCE.

Manufacturers and Merchants' INSURANCE COMPANY.

87 WOOD STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa.

FIRE AND MARINE INSURANCE.

Capital, - - $250,000

ASSETS, $260,015 05, JANUARY 1, 1877.

UNSURPASSED AS A

POLITICAL, COMMERCIAL

AND

General Newspaper.

JAMES I. BENNETT.....President.
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CAPT. JAMES ANDERSON.....Genrs' Agent.

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Citizens' Insurance Company,

OF PITTSBURGH.

W. G. JOHNSTON.....President.
WALTER

FINANCE AND TRADE.

TUESDAY EVENING, January 30, 1877.

We have to report once more a lack of news concerning the financial interests of this city. The banking business flows along in the same channel and has scarcely a ripple to disturb the even surface of the stream. Leaving all figurative speech, loans continue to be made about as frequently as lately, but so far as we can hear not more so. There is plenty of money in the banks and a perfect willingness to let it out on such security as judicious banking requires, and that just now is solid. Other than solid security will be invariably rejected, as safety is considered of more importance than a show of large profits. The era of enterprise, as it was once called among the banks, has fairly given way to that of caution, and the movements now are made carefully step by step. The change is not to be regretted, though once in a while a disappointed would-be borrower thinking himself good for all paper he puts his name to, may wish for less of old fogyism. A contemporary given to speculation upon the prospects before us, thinks that with the coming of spring the banks will find full use for the funds now lying in their vaults, for we have already the great requisites to active and prosperous business life in cheap raw material, reasonable wages and low rents. But the future only will tell what the future is to be. Here, as said once before, hope rules rather than expectation. We continue to quote the bank rates of discount at 7@8 per cent. on prime business paper, and 6@7 per cent. on first-class collaterals. The street rates are nominally 7@10 per cent.

—As to the question of resumption, the New York *Evening Post* says: According to the public debt statement rendered January 1, 1877, this being the latest issue, there were outstanding:

Legal tender notes	$346,130,541
The gold balance in the Treasury was	99,217,418
This balance was subject to the following deductions:	
Certificates of deposit	$17,280,000
Interest due and unpaid	8,391,459
Called 5-20 bonds on which interest had ceased	1,092,900
Total deductible cash items	66,695,359

Total gold available for resumption, $3,504,059

Since January 1, 1877, it is not known that the Treasury has sold any 4½ per cent. bonds for gold; in other words, that there have been any sales of bonds not accompanied by calls for the redemption of 5-20 6 per cent. bonds. So that the Treasury has to day no more gold available for resumption than it had January 1st. The February debt statement will be forthcoming this week, and whatever changes there may be in the above items will then appear.

In this connection we add that the transfers of gold, since January 1, from California to New York, by means of the sub-treasury at San Francisco and that at New York, amount to $2,560,000, as we learned at the New York Sub-Treasury this morning.

—The London *Times* of a recent date utters an editorial wail upon the unfortunate condition of British commerce, in the course of which it shows that the imports last year exceeded the exports by nearly $600,000,000. It puts its sorrow thus:

Taking the imports first, we find that their value for the twelve months rans to almost exactly the same figures as for 1875, being in the one case £370,944,000, and in the other £378,941,000 ($1,770,000,000), a difference in favor of 1876 of merely some £63,000. The exports, on the other hand, have declined very heavily as against 1875, reaching only £2,000,576,000 ($1,003 380,000), or to about £22 900 000 ($114 500,000) less. Compared with 1874 the falling off is no less than £39,000,000 ($195,000,000). When we have added the estimated value of the exports of foreign and colonial produce—£50,000,000—to this side of the account there remains a balance against the country on the entire trading account of about £118,000,000 ($590,000,000) for the past year.

Turning to the export side of the question, the *Times* finds more to interest it in the decline of trade with particular countries than in the falling away of particular articles. It says:

Every one interested in business has been now only too long familiar with the *prolonged dropping away of values*, if not of bulk, in coal and iron, cotton and woolen goods, machinery and hardware, linen, sugar and copper. These tables help us to see what foreign buyers are most prominently curtailing operations. Going down the pages of the return, we find, as was to be expected, that the United States is, if we may be allowed to say so, the *worst defaulter*. That great country is buying from us less of almost everything, from silk clothes, beer and earthenware to pig iron, railroad iron, cutlery, machinery, cotton piece goods, and woolen and worsted manufactures.

It is also said that wines nobody any good, and so what is the misfortune of England in this particular may be in a degree the prosperity of ourselves. Those who base their financial calculations upon the balance of trade will find in the statements of the *Times* something to encourage them in their figuring.

—Speaking of the annual report of the Massachusetts Railway Commissioners, the Boston *Daily Advertiser* says: "It presents both in a summarized form, and in detail, the fact known by all who take an interest in the matter, that the last year was an unprofitable one for the railroads. There was practically no addition to the mileage, there was a decrease in passenger business, and the railroads carried more freight a longer distance for less money than they had received the year before. The consequence was, that the dividends of all the roads combined fell off nearly a million dollars during the year."

—The Chicago *Times* laments a very general and unnecessary confusion of ideas as to the nature of legal tender legislation and proceeds to clear it away in the following style:

A legal-tender act is essentially nothing more than a legislative definition of the words dollar, pound, franc, etc., in contracts where the particular kind of dollar, pound, etc., is not specified. A gives his note to B, promising to pay so many dollars, but does not say whether by the word "dollar" he means a coin containing 23.22 grains of pure gold, or a coin containing 371¼ grains of pure silver, or something else. If B brings suit to collect the dollars that A has promised to pay, then the law steps in and supplies the definition of the word "dollar," and declares that if A tenders certain described coins, or pieces of paper, he shall be discharged from his obligation. The law at present describes three kinds of dollars—the silver trade dollar, the gold dollar and the paper dollar, or promise of a dollar. The first of these is declared not to be a legal tender; consequently, if A tenders it to B, A remains in debt discharged from his obligation, unless B chooses to accept them. But if he tenders either of the other kind, he will be discharged. In the eye of the law he does well in a public matter whether the dollars tendered are worth anything or not. It will be seen that any particular thing which the law may declare to be a dollar has power to buy a debt, or, on being tendered, to discharge the debtor, only in cases where dollars are to be paid, and the parties to the contract have not specified the particular kind of dollars. In such cases legal dollars derive their power to discharge the debts from the law.

—The following were the national bank notes received at the department in Washington for redemption for the week ending January 27, and for the corresponding week of last year:

	1876.	1877.
New York	$1,870,000	$1,760,000
Boston	1,940,000	1,827, 60
Philadelphia	184,000	437,000
Miscellaneous	876,000	1,944,000
Total	$4,870,000	$5,471,000

—Following are the latest revised Philadelphia quotations for sterling and Continental bills:

	60 days.	3 days.
Prime bankers' sterling bills on London	483@484½	485@486
Good bankers' do	482 @484	484@485½
Good commercial	481½@482¾	483 @484
Documentary com'l	481 @482	482½@483½
Paris (francs)	5.20¾@5.17½	5.18¾@5.15
Antwerp (francs)	5.20¾@5.17½	5.18¾@5.15
Swiss (francs)	5.20¾@5.17½	5.18¾@5.15
Amsterdam (guilders)	40 @40½	40 @40½
Hamburg (reichmarks)	94½@ 95	95 @ 95½
Frankfort (reichmarks)	94½@ 95	95 @ 95½
Bremen (reichmarks)	94½@ 95	95 @ 95½
Berlin (reichmarks)	94½@ 95	95 @ 95½

[By Associated Press.]
Gold Closed at 105¼

MONEY.

NEW YORK, January 30.—Money easy at 4@5 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4½@6 per cent. Customs receipts $562,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $319,000. Clearings $40,000,000. Sterling steady at 484@486¼.

GOLD.

Gold opened at 105¾ and closed at 105¼. Carrying rates 3¼@5 per cent. Silver at London unchanged; here bar silver is 130¾ per ounce in greenbacks and 124 in gold; silver coin par.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds dull but there is a better feeling. Railroad bonds generally firm. State securities steady. The stock market, which declined again ¼ to 1 per cent. early in the day, was firmer toward the close and prices recovered from ¼ to 1½ per cent. Speculation in coal stocks exercised considerable influence on the general market throughout the day, which declined and rallied as coal shares were weak or firm. The widest fluctuations of the day were in the anthracite roads and Illinois Central. New Jersey Central was prominent, ranging between 37 and 23½, with latest sales at 25½. The steadiness in the stock late in the day was due to rumors from Philadelphia that there was to be a change in management by which the company was to be brought into closer relations with the Lehigh Navigation Company and some new life put into its concern. Delaware, Lackawanna and Western was another conspicuous stock, declining from 72½ to 69¾ and closing at 70. The greatest decline of the day was in Delaware and Hudson Canal, which dropped from 65 to 61 and closed at 61¼. In the general list Illinois Central was the weakest stock, declining from 55½ to 52, closing at the lowest point. In late dealings St. Paul preferred suddenly came to the front and advanced from 46¾ to 47¾, closing at 47½; common advanced to 18¾. Northwestern and Western Union closed up strong and higher; United States Express declined to 49¼. Transactions 150,000 shares, of which 28,000 were Western Union, 14,000 St. Paul, 12,500 Lake Shore, 4,000 Michigan Central, 41,000 Delaware, Lackawanna and Western 21,000 New Jersey Central and 3,000 Delaware and Hudson Canal. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.

West. Union Tel.	76	N. J. Central	33
Pacific Mail	14	Rock Island	102
Do. preferred	20¾	St. Paul	18¾
Pacific Mail	20¾	Do. preferred	47¾
Mariposa	5¾	Toledo & Wabash	6¾
Do. preferred	8¾	Ft. Wayne	109¾
Adams Express	97	Chic. & Alton	97
Wells-Fargo Ex	84	Do. preferred	114
American Ex	54	Chicago & Alton	101
United States Ex	49¼	Do. preferred	110
New York Central	102¾	Ohio & Mississippi	20
Erie	9¾	Ohio & Quincy	117¾
Do. preferred	18	Del. & Lack	63¾
Harlem	140	A. & P. Tel. Co.	16
Do. preferred	136	Missouri Pacific	102¾
Michigan Central	48	Indiana Central	2¾
Panama	122	Hannibal & St. Joe.	12¾
Lake Shore	70¾	Union Pac. stock	64¾
Cleve. and Pitts	92¾	Central Pac. bds	107¾
Illinois Central	53¾	Union Pac. bds	103¾
Northwestern	35	Do. land grants	102
Do. preferred	56¾	Do. S. F. bonds	93¾
C., C., C. & I	10¾		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	111¾	New 5's	111¾
5-20's, 1865	106¾	New 4½'s	101¾
5-20's, 1865, new	106¾	Funded 1881	111½
5-20's, 1867	113¾	10-40's, coupons	113¾
5-20's, 1868	110¾	Currency 6's	122

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	43¾	Virginia, old	30
Tennessee, new	43¾	Missouri 6's	100
Virginia, new	30		

LONDON, January 30, 5 P. M.—The bullion withdrawn from the Bank of England on balance to-day is £130,000. Consols 93 15-16. United States bonds—5-20's, 1865, 105½; do 1867, 106; do 10-40's, 104; new 5's, 107¾. Railroad securities—New York Central 99; Erie 9¾; preferred 20.

PARIS, January 30.—Rentes 108 francs.

FRANKFORT, January 30.—United States bonds—New 5's 103¾.

NEW ORLEANS, January 30.—Gold 105¾@106. Sight exchange on New York par. Sterling exchange 5@5.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, January 30, 1877.

The forenoon of to-day was about as dark as an immense pall of smoke could make it, and the weather was raw and unpleasant; but in spite of all this, trade showed more activity than yesterday, both of country and city. Besides this sign of life there is not much to tell of our commercial affairs. Quotations rule in all leading articles of produce in this city since our last are as follows:

Wheat, bush	950	Bacon, pcs	4,093
Flour, bbls	8,825	Lard, bbls	150
Barley, bus	2,190	Hay, bales	967
Oats, bush	4,150	Apples, bbls	76
Corn, bush	2,300	Butter, lbs	25
Rye, bush	1,867	Potatoes	487
Cattle, head	1,200		

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales, dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free in elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—The market remains unchanged in prices, but so far as corn and wheat are concerned, decidedly easier. Oats are unchanged either in tone or value. The grains rye and buckwheat are dull at the quotations given. Our quotations of grain are: Prime red wheat $1 40@1 48 ₱ bushel; prime white wheat $1 48@1 55. Corn—No. 1 yellow ear, 48@49c ₱ bushel; mixed ear, 46@47c. New ear 45@46c. Oats—Prime white mixed, 36@37c ₱ bushel for choice; 35@36c ₱ bushel for prime spring; 31@32c ₱ bushel for good to prime spring; $1 00 for prime fall; for low grades 66c.

FLOUR—The tendency of the flour market is to a weakening, though as yet there has been no notable changes to record, except in Wisconsins, which we reduce 25c ₱ bbl. A decline in all kinds is pretty certain to occur in sympathy with the approaching decline in wheat, unless further rumors of a European war and consequent stiffening in breadstuffs should prevent. These rumors have been a fruitful source of speculation, which has kept the flour market active and excited for some time past. To-day we quote: No. 1 white wheat family flour $6 50@6 75 ₱ bbl; No. 1 amber do $8 00; prime red wheat flour $6 00; Wisconsin and Minnesota $7 25@8 00; fancy St. Louis $9 25@9 75; pancake flour $9 50; Graham flour $6 75@7 25; cornmeal 70c ₱ bushel; at retail 75@80c ₱ bushel; barrel; keg $1 75@4 00; rye flour $4 75 in sacks $5 ₱ barrel.

MILL FEED—The supply a good deal below the demand, and prices firm as here given. We quote bran at $18 00@19 00 ₱ ton at wholesale, and $20 00@21 00 in a jobbing way; middlings $23 00@25 00; second-sand shipstuffs $16 00@18 00; chopped feed $20 00@22 00.

HAY—The market is well supplied, prairie hay selling in small lots rather freely, but timothy, however, no changes to notice. We quote: No. 1 timothy $13 00@15 00; No. 2 timothy $12 00@13 00 from first hands baled. Prairie—Upland $11 00@12 00; mixed $9 00@10 00.

Country Produce.

The produce market continues depressed. It was without an event worthy of record. It is weaker, taken as a whole, though the change is hardly manifest owing to the little that was done.

APPLES—Are in full supply and we quote the best at $1 50@1 75 ₱ barrel; lower grades $1 00@1 50.

APPLE BUTTER—No demand, or but a light one, and quoted at 35@40c ₱ gallon as to quality.

BEESWAX—A little scarce, and quoted at 30@32c ₱ lb.

BEANS—Are in fair demand at $1 90@2 20@2 50, according to quality, for prime white navy. Lima beans, new crop, 6@7c ₱ lb; unshelled.

BROOM CORN—To meet the demands of the spring trade, manufacturers' agents are buying stock and we note a fair advance in some kinds. We quote: Choice hurl 6@6½c; medium green 4½@5c; red-topped 3@4c; inferior not desired; crooked in fair demand at about 3 per cent. off the prices given, as to quality.

HONEY—Nothing doing and prices rather nominal than real. Quoted at 30@35c ₱ lb for new crop.

SEEDED DRIED CORN—Fair supply and quoted at 9c ₱ lb.

HOMINY—Demand moderate at $3 50@3 75 ₱ barrel.

NUTS—Hickory nuts dull at 75c@$1 00 per bushel; shellbarks, a light demand and quoted at $1 25@1 50.

ONIONS—Still scarce and to-day higher; quoted at $3 ₱ @3 75 ₱ bbl.

HONEY—California comb 22c ₱ lb; home honey 22c.

CRANBERRIES—Supply sufficient and market dull. The quotations are $10 00 ₱ bbl; $3 25@3 50 ₱ bushel.

CIDER—A dull market and prices unchanged at $5 50@4 00, barrel included, for common; $5 00@5 50 for fifty-s cents.

DRIED FRUITS—The supply is abundant and the demand very limited. We quote dried apples at 4@5c ₱ lb for prime quarters; 5@6c for sliced; dried peaches 13c; evaporated peaches 16@23c per pound according to quality.

DRIED PEAS—The demand is good for new crop at $1 50@1 60 ₱ bushel.

BUTTER—All grades are in full supply; the demand moderate. We quote: Choice fresh roll 22@23c per lb; do roll 22@23c; choice dairy rolls 20@22c.

CHEESE—We figure: In fair demand at $3 75@4 00 per cwt for prime; $7 25@7 50 per bbl.

CURED—We quote prime Ohio factory at 14¾@14¾c; reconstructed hobbing at 13@13½c. New York Goshen 15½@16c in round lots; 16@16½c in a jobbing way. Young American 15c; autumn 15c.

SEEDS—As sowing time is yet some distance off, the demand, therefore, is quite moderate for seed, though inquiries are increasing. The rates at the store are: Cloverseed $5 50@3 00 ₱ bushel of 62 lbs; timothy seed $2 15.

EGGS—Hardly any fresh ones in market. We quote fresh at 32@36c ₱ dozen and pickled at 24@25c.

FEATHERS—Choice are quoted at 55@60c ₱ lb at wholesale; 60@70c in a jobbing way; mixed are quoted at 35@40c ₱ lb at wholesale; 40@45c in a jobbing way.

DRESSED HOGS—Not very plentiful, and quoted at 7½c ₱ lb.

POULTRY—The demand for dressed is more active. We quote: Dressed chickens 12½@13c ₱ lb. We quote live turkeys at 7c@$1 00 each; dressed 12½@13c ₱ lb; chickens is coop 40@45c ₱ pair. Ducks, 45@50c ₱ pair; dressed 12½@13½ ₱ lb. Geese 50@60c each; dressed 8@9c ₱ lb.

POTATOES—More plenty and a shade lower. We quote in to-day's sales: Early rose, 80 ₱ bushel; early rose 40 bbl $1 20@1 25; Peerless $1 25. Sweet potatoes $5 50 ₱ barrel.

TURNIPS—There is scarcely anything doing. We quote nominally 17@19c ₱ gallon for prime country stock; 14c for best city make; wine vinegar 26c.

WOOL—Nothing doing. Common fleece, ₱ lb, 32c; tub-washed, ₱ lb, 36c; delaine washing, ₱ lb, 40c; tub-washed, ₱ lb, 38c; city pulings, ₱ lb, 25@30c; unwashed, ₱ lb, 18@20c.

Provisions.

A much better trade was generally reported to-day than yesterday. Other than this we have nothing to tell of the provision market. Our quotations are without change.

BACON—Shoulders 8½c per pound; short rib sides 10½c; clear sides 10¾c.

CURE AND CURED MEATS—Hams are firm at 12¾c ₱ lb for extra sugar-cured. Breakfast bacon rules strong and we quote sugar-cured at 12½c. Sugar-cured shoulders were steady at 8½c. Dried beef, sugar-cured, was firm at 15c. Beef tongues, per dozen, are quoted at $6 50.

LARD—Kettle lard, tierces, 11½c; ½ bbls 12¼c; pails 13½c. Refined lard—Tierces 12c; ½-bbls 12¾c; ½ bbls 13¼c; pails 13½c; 5-lb do 14c; 3-lb do 14½c; 2-lb do, 14½c; 3-lb caddies, 14½c; 5-lb do 14½c.

LARD OIL—Cincinnati oil, double extra $1 00@1 05 ₱ gal; extra No. 1, 78@85c. No. 2, 60@65c. Engine miners' No. 1 winter oil, pure, 90c; lower yellow winter 57c. Pittsburgh oil, double extra winter strained 56c ₱ gal; No. 1 do 50c; No. 2 do 45c.

MESS PORK—Following are the ruling quotations: $18 ₱ bbl. The market is reported quiet and firm.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' city rendered, at 8½c ₱ lb; country do 7½c ₱ lb; rough 5½c ₱ lb.

Groceries.

The grocery trade was reported pretty fair, some good country orders having come to hand. The only alterations we have to make in yesterday's quotations are an advance of ⅛c per pound on standard sugars, and a decline of ⅛c per pound in roasted Rio coffees in papers and in bulk; and a decline of several cents per gallon in molasses. We give the corrected list of prices below:

Green Coffees.	₱ lb.	*Sugars.*	₱ lb.
Fancy Rio	21½c	Standard A	11½c
Choice Rio	20½	Standard B	11c
Prime Rio	20½c	Do. extra C	11c
Good Rio	21	Do. C—yel.	10½c
Ordinary Rio	20	do C—yellow	9½@ 9¾c
Java	30½c	Franklin, B	10¾@10¾c
Roasted Coffees.		Granulated	11½c
Rio, in papers	22c	Cut Loaf	13½c
20 grades do	23@	Crushed	12½c
Rio, in bulk	24½@27½c	Powdered	12½c
Java, in prs.	30@	Granulated	12½c
Java, in bulk	30½@33	*Molasses.*	₱ gal.
Teas.		Str'y ch. N. O.	50c
Young Hyson	60@1 00	Prime	55c
Gunpowder	80@ 90	*Syrups.*	
Imperial	30c@ 90	Ex. white drips	60@65c
Japan	30c@ 85	Standard do	55@60c
Oolong	30c@ 85	Lower grades	45@50c
Fancy do	1 00	*Starch.*	₱ lb
Sauchong	30c@ 75	Pearl	3½@4 c
Spices (whole).		Silver gloss	9¼c
Cloves	45 c	Corn	7½@8c
Allspice	17 c	Powdered	8c
Cassia	20@21 c	Chicago corn	8½c
Nutmegs	1 15	*Rice.*	
Pepper	18 c	Choice Carlin	6¼@7 c
Soaps.		Louisiana	5½@6¼c
Irish soap, ₱ box	$4 20	*Starch.*	
S. S. Star, ₱ box	5 75	Bl-carb, in kgs	4½@5 c
Babbitt's best, ₱ box	6 75	Bl-carb, in 10-lb papers	5 c
Gold do	6 25	Bl-carb, in ₱ papers	5½c
Extra olive do	3 80	*Candles.*	
Do. N. Y. City, ₱ box	6	Star, full w't	16 c
German mottled do	7	Stearine	11@13 c
California, ₱ box	$4 20	Mould	11½c

CANNED GOODS—No change in prices. We quote green peas, 2 ₱ cans, ₱ dozen, $2 00@2 25; raspberries do $1 85; strawberries do $1 65; gooseberries do $1 35; pineapples do, $2 20; blackberries do, $1 50; peaches, 3 ₱ cans per doz, $2 25; tomatoes do, $1 90; pickles, bbls, $5 25; half-bbls, $4 75.

FISH—Following are the ruling quotations at which sales are made:

Per bbl.		Per bbl.	
Extra No. 1 Mess mackerel	$27 00	Round herring	$6 50
Extra No. 1 shore	20 00	Split Labrador	6 00
Extra No. 1 bay	17 00	Lake Pick., kit-bbls	3 50
Extra No. 2 large	13 00	Lake Herring, do	2 75
No. 2 medium	12 50	Lge Georges cod fish, ₱ 2 lbs	6
Large No. 3	12 00	Medium Georges	5¼
No. 3 medium	9 00	Halibut, ₱ lb	12½
Whitefish, kit-bbls	5 75	No. 1 Herring, ₱ box	35
Lake Trout, do	4 50	Scaled herring do	20

FOREIGN FRUITS—The market is quiet and prices rule as below. We quote: Layers raisins, new, per box, 2½@2¾; London layers, new, $3 25; Muscatel $2 40; mat raisins $4 15 ₱ mat; Valentias, new, 9½c ₱ lb. Sultanas 17c. Dates 8@8¼c ₱ lb. Currants 7¼c. Citron 30c. Prunes, old, 6½c; new, 8¼c. Almonds—Languedoc 25c; do shelled 38c; Ivica 22c; Princess 37c; do Jordan 35c, do Ivica 22c. Walnuts—Naples 20c; Marbot 18c; Sicily filberts 16c. Smyrna figs, new, 14c. Brazil nuts 10c. Maccaroni 11@18c. Tapioca 10c. Lemons—Palermos, $ box, $2 75. Oranges—Florida $3 50 ₱ box. Cocoanuts $7 00 ₱ hundred.

Petroleum.

January 30.—We have nothing new or important to communicate in regard to the refined market. The demand for sometime past has been entirely local. Prices nominally 20¼c to the home trade. At New York the market is dull with scarcely any inquiry. While holders ask 20¾c, of course, there are no buyers, as sales on contracts were made at 24@24¼c; cash sales at Baltimore and Philadelphia, the same dullness continues. No demand and scarcely any inquiry; holders ask the old rates, 20¾c; nothing doing.

OIL BARRELS—Dull: city made $1 30; country $1 15.

PARKER, January 30, 6 P. M.—The crude oil market opened steady this morning at the closing quotation of yesterday, 43 3-8c being bid for Condnit and United. It then advanced to 43 7-8c, then gave way to 43 3-4c, holding there for a short time. In the afternoon a determined effort to further depress prices was successful, and before closing a semi-panic was established, selling down to 43 2-8c, amidst considerable excitement. No bids being made to stem the downward course. The decline was checked here and it is now quoted at 43 3-8@43¾c. Refined steady. United Pipe Lines, 43¾c bid. Shipments during the morning was quoted as follows, with 65 cars reported as in the case: No reliable reports could be had on shipments from the lower district for the past 24 hours. 1,425 barrels; average per day to date 18,458 barrels.

(By Western Union Telegraph.)

NEW YORK, January 30, Opening 12—There is no trade of importance and prices are unsettled. Refined from second hands is offered in small lots at 21c. The following are the prices for New York delivery: Crude in bulk 12¾c; in barrels 16¾c; city naphtha 4c in shipping order; refined in barrels 20¾c; in cases 24@25½c. At Philadelphia and Baltimore refined, spot, rules at 20¾c.

OIL CITY, January 30, 10 A. M.—*Derrick* says of yesterday's market: Opening at 43 4-8¾ there was a gradual decline to 43 1-8¾, after which there was a slight recovery followed by another decline which continued throughout the entire day. About noon New York operators began selling and hastened the decline. They bought some buyers' options during the day. There appears to be quite a demand for these options at prices ranging from 43 3-8c above spot, while those for February advance is quite confidently looked for and it may be the bears are preparing themselves for it. The shipping facilities are improving, although there yet remains ample room for improvement. The daily shipments from the river district now reach about 2,000 barrels and the average for the month will be but little less. The feeling is quite dull and quotation could hardly be established, the market being wholly nominal. The closing price of United was 43¾ bid, with 50,000 barrels.

TITUSVILLE, January 30.—Market opened weak at $3 50.

OIL CITY, January 30.—Market weak and declining; United $3 39¾; immediate shipment offered at $3 37½.

ROUSSEVILLE, January 30.—Market weak; nothing doing; can't quote.

TIDIOUTE, January 30.—Market quiet and weak; bids about $3 90.

PARKER, January 30.—Market opened weak with 43 3-8 bid for United and 43¾ bid for Conduit; closing: United 43 3-8@43¾; immediate shipment offered at 43 3-8¾.

TIDIOUTE, January 30.—Market weak; no bids; can't quote.

ROUSSEVILLE, January 30.—Market weak; nothing doing; can't quote.

General Merchandise.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—We quote alcohol at $2 18@2 30 ₱ gallon; highwines at $1 10 ₱ gallon.

BAGS AND BAGGING—There is a fair demand and prices rule as follows: Extra gunny bags 22c; do cement 20c; do Calcutta Union bags 24c; American A's 30c; Philadelphia A's 33c; California grain bags 90c; English do 19c; Penn Mill 3 bushel 36c; do 2½ bushel 30c; do 2 bushel 24c; Allegheny 2 bushel do 22c. Bags—Kentucky Powers—Sacked as follows: 2 lbs 25 cents ₱ dozen; ¼ ₱ cans $3 00; 1 ₱ cans $5 50; 5 ₱ cans $20 00; 10 ₱ boxes 40c ₱ ₱. Market steady and demand good.

BELTING—We stated recently that on account of the advance in leather the manufacturers of belting had advanced their prices, but not per foot upon all sizes up to 16 inches. The advance which was made then is still maintained. The market has no special features today, and the prices which we give below are firm. The list of prices are as follows:

Per foot.		Per foot.	
Inch wide	9	5 inches wide	57
½ inch wide	15	5½ inches wide	63
2 inches wide	21	6 inches wide	69
2½ inches wide	27	7 inches wide	81
3 inches wide	33	8 inches wide	93
3½ inches wide	39	10 inches wide	1 17
4 inches wide	45	12 inches wide	1 41
4½ inches wide	51	14 inches wide	1 65

Discount 15 to 25 per cent., as to quality and quantity.

BROOMS—We note considerable activity in brooms, now that spring is near at hand, and the advance is expected. For the present the following are jobbing rates as quoted by manufacturers' agents:

No. 1 hurl	$1 50
No. 2 hurl	1 75
No. 3 hurl	2 00
No. 4 hurl	2 25
No. 5 hurl	2 50
No. 6 hurl	2 75
No. 3 carpet	3 25
No. 4 carpet	3 75
No. 5 carpet	4 25
No. 3 fancy parlor	4 00
No. 4 fancy parlor	4 50
Rafford (extra heavy)	2 75@3 25
Hotel, fine corn (extra heavy)	4 00@5 00
Whisps, 6, 8 and 10 inch	1 25@1 75
Toy brooms	1 25@1 75
Misses' brooms	75

CRACKERS—Demand active and prices higher. Water crackers 6¼c; sugar crackers 9½c; butter crackers 6½c; soda crackers 6½c; extra Boston 10c; extra soda 10c; ginger snaps 12½c; lemon biscuit 13½c. Trenton hard made crackers 90 per pound.

HIDES AND LEATHER—The market for leather just now is somewhat depressed, owing to unfavorable advices from the East, and we note a decline in a few kinds of leather. The market for hides remains steady at the following unchanged quotations:

Leather	
Oak sole, country ₱ lb	32@ 34
Oak sole, city	33@ 35
Red sole, Buenos Ayres heavy	29@ 31
Red sole, Buenos Ayres mid	28@ 30
Red sole, Ormoco and Cala. heavy	28@ 29
Red sole, Orinoco and Cala. mid	26@ 28
Red sole, good damaged	24@ 27
Oak, rough	24@ 27
Harness, city oak	32@ 34
Harness, country	29@ 32
Harness, No. 2 and common	26@ 28
Collar, oak sides, ₱ foot	13@ 17
Collar, city ₱ foot	14@ 17
Fair bridle and line, ₱ doz	54 00@66 0
Bell leather, ₱ lb	30@ 33
Finished calf	90@1 20
Finished upper, ₱ foot	16@ 20
Finished kips ₱ doz	80@1 00
Hides.	
Green salted cows	8 @ 8½
Green salted steers, light	9 @ 9½
Green salted steers, heavy	9 @ 9½
Green salted calf	12 @13
Green butcher cows	7
Green butcher steers, light	6
Green butcher steers, heavy	9
Green butcher calf	10

HEMP—The demand is slow at $123 00@125 00 for Kentucky rough.

OILS—Trade is fairly active and the market is strong. We quote jobbing prices as follows: Neatsfoot oil, pure, per gallon, 90c; miners' oil—No. 1, 65c; head light, 150 degrees fire test, 32c; carbon, 110 degrees fire test, 25@26c; extra white (amber color), 50c, No. 2 engine (amber color), 40c; extra engine (dark), 30c; spindle oil, 30c; West Virginia, 25 degrees gravity, 30c; No. 2 West Virginia, 25c; natural lubricating, 28 degrees gravity, 20@22c; car oil, No. 1, 18c; car oil, No. 2, 15c; amber burning or torch oil 140 fire test 16@16c; residuum (prime), $4 00; residuum (common), $3 50; axle grease, ₱ gross, $12 00; rolling mill grease, ₱ pound, 7c; bleached winter whale oil, 75c; cod oil, for tanners, 60@65c straits oil, for tanners, 50@60c.

RAGS—The market is steady. We quote cotton bagging, 2½@2¾c ₱ lb; and woolen 1½@1¾c.

STOVE POLISH—Sales made as follows: 5 ₱ gross, $2 25; 10 ₱ gross, $4 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $4 50.

SALT—The market is steady and unchanged. No 1 sells in car lots at $1 60 per barrel. We quote jobbing prices at $1 75 ₱ bbl for No. 1; $1 25 for extra No. 2; $1 40 for dairy. Liverpool salt repacked in large sacks of 220 lbs, $2 50@2 10 per sack; dairy salt in small sacks $2 25@3 50 ₱ bbl.

WOODEN WARE—The market is quiet but rather nominal. Former quotations being unchanged as follows:

No. 1 tubs ₱ dozen	$8 50
No. 2 tubs ₱ dozen	7 50
No. 3 tubs ₱ dozen	6 50
2-hoop pails ₱ dozen	1 85
3-hoop pails ₱ dozen	2 10
Washboards, patent, ₱ dozen	2 75
Washboards, common, ₱ dozen	2 00@2 15
Clothes pins, round head, ₱ box	20@25

WRAPPING PAPER—Crown straw and rag, 35c ₱ bundle; medium, 32c; double crown, 70c; double medium, $1 05; tissue manilla, 25c@$2 65 ₱ ream; dry goods, 75c@$4 50; No. 1 manilla, 10@11c ₱ ₱; No. 2 do, 8@9c; hardware do, 10@11c; tea do, 8@10c; flour sacks (¼ bbl), $35 00@40 00 ₱ 1,000; do (½ bbl), $20 00@22 00; grocers' bags (1 ₱ ₱), $1 30@1 50; 2 ₱ ₱ do, $2 20; 5 ₱ ₱ do, $3 70; 10 ₱ ₱ do, $6 00; 15 ₱ ₱ do, $9 50; 20 ₱ ₱ do, $10 50.

CORDAGE AND ROPE—Manilla rope ¾ inch diameter and upwards, 15½c ₱ ₱; ⅝ inches and upwards, 15½c; ½ and 5-16 inch diameter, 16½c; tarred rope and lath yarn 14½c; hay, stave and leather twine 16½. Oil well drilling cables. Hawser laid 15½c ₱ ₱; hawser laid rope yarns 16½c; sand pump rope 15½c. Sisal rope ¾ inch diameter and upwards 13½c; ½ inch and upwards, 12½c; ⅜ and 5-16 inch diameter 13½c; hay, spoke and leather twine 13½c; lath yarn 13½c.

Live Stock Markets.

Central Stock Yards, East Liberty.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, TUESDAY, January 30, 1877.

The stock market at East Liberty to-day was slow all around, and on all grades of stock. The receipts were heavier than when the market was last reported.

CATTLE.

The receipts of cattle were fair and the sales made slowly and at a decline from recent prices. We quote:

Extra choice, 1,400 to 1,600 lbs	$5 50@5 75
Good, 1,300 to 1,400 lbs	5 25@5 50
Good, 1,100 to 1,300 lbs	5 00@5 25
Fair, 1,000 to 1,100 lbs	4 75@5 00
Nice stockers	4 50@4 75
Bulls, stags and cows	3 25@4 25

HOGS.

The receipts of hogs were heavy, being well up to the demand, and in consequence the exceptional prices of Friday were not maintained.

Choice Philadelphias ..... $7 00@7 25
Good heavy Yorkers ..... 6 75@7 00
Best light Yorkers ..... 6 50@6 75
Pigs ..... 6 25@6 50
Roughs ..... 5 00@5 50

SHEEP.

The receipts were about thirty cars. The market was not active, but sales were made at good figures. We quote:

Best, 110 to 120 lbs	$6 00@6 25
Good, 95 to 105 lbs	5 75@6 00
Good, 80 to 90 lbs	5 25@5 50
Good, 70 to 80 lbs	4 75@5 00

[By Associated Press.]

BUFFALO, January 30.—Cattle—Receipts 1,324 head; total for the week 5,763 head. Market dull and dragging; sales 50

CITY MATTERS.

For seventy-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

The Commercial in the East End.

S. W. Armor is the authorized agent for THE COMMERCIAL in the East End, and all persons wishing it served daily at their residence or place of business, will please leave their order at the East Liberty Station News Stand, and it will be served regularly at fifteen cents per week, payable to the agent.

Weather Report.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV., } BUREAU FIRST NATIONAL BANK, } PITTSBURGH, PA., January 30, 1877.

Time.	Bar.	Th'r.	Hum	Wind. Dir.	Wind. Vel.	Weath.
7 A. M.	30 341	31	79	N.	2	Foggy.
2 P. M.	30 265	50	55	S. W.	2	Clear.
9 P. M.	30 399	38	71	E.	1	Foggy.

Mean barometer..30 383 Highest thermom... 51
Mean thermom.... 39.2 Lowest thermom.... 30

Take Rational Care of Your Cold

at once, by using Dr. Jayne's Expectorant, and you may escape a dangerous throat or lung disease. M w&f

Stock Sale.

The following stocks were sold last evening at the McIlwaine auction rooms, No. 88 Smithfield street, by John D. Bailey, auctioneer:

Cash Insurance Company.....454 00
People's Insurance Company.....60 50

Attempt to Rob.

About ten o'clock last night a small boy went into the Robinson House, and approaching a guest named Hall, told him that two gentlemen desired to see him on Duquesne way, a short distance from the hotel. Mr. Hall repaired to the spot indicated, when he was "garroted" by two men, who attempted to rifle his pockets. Mr. H., being a powerful man, broke away from his assailants and made an outcry, whereupon they ran away to escape arrest. Hall had a large sum of money on his person, a fact which the robbers had in some way evidently become aware of.

The County Printing.

The COMMERCIAL is under renewed obligations to the County Commissioners, for the favor of which the following is the official notification:

COMMISSIONERS' OFFICE, }
PITTSBURGH, January 30, 1877. }

Commercial Printing Company—Gentlemen: At a meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the County of Allegheny, your paper, THE DAILY COMMERCIAL, was duly appointed one of the county printers for the ensuing year. Attest;

GEORGE ALEXANDER, Clerk.

Pittsburgh Female College Concert.

Our readers will not forget, among the many attractions in the city, the vocal and instrumental concert in the chapel of the Pittsburgh Female College on Friday evening. Miss Atkinson, so well known as a brilliant pianist, Mr. J. T. Irwin, always popular with a Pittsburgh audience, Mr. C. C. Mellor, who needs no commendation from us, Professor S. Bissel, the organist of Christ church, Miss Thomson, the teacher of vocal music in the college, Professor De Ham, who has trained so many of our best musicians, and a number of the pupils of the college will take part. A rich treat is in store for those who can attend. We predict a grand success.

Fires Yesterday.

At nine o'clock yesterday morning a defective flue set fire to the roof of the two-story frame house, at 146 Grant street, belonging to John O'Neill. An alarm was turned in from box 27, but the blaze was extinguished before the arrival of the department. The loss is nominal.

About two o'clock yesterday morning flames were discovered issuing from the two story frame dwelling of Mr. James Fleming, on Bishop street, Mount Washington. The flames had gained considerable headway when discovered, and although the firemen and policemen responded to the alarm the former were compelled to rely upon the Babcock extinguishers. The building and contents were entirely destroyed. The loss is estimated between $3,000 and $4,000, upon which there is an insurance of $1,000. It is thought a coal rolled out from the grate and set fire to the floor.

The Morganza Trouble.

The committee consisting of Josiah Cohen, Chairman, Henry Warner, Henry Irwin, John M. Irwin and William Rinehart, the latter serving in the place of Mr. Fetterman (he being sick,) appointed by the Board of Managers of the Reform School at Morganza to investigate the charges made a few days since against Superintendent Loomis, reported at a meeting of the Board yesterday afternoon as follows:

"Your committee appointed to inquire concerning certain alleged charges against Superintendent Loomis, of the Reform School, and which appeared in the city press, beg leave to report that they have attended to their duties and find the charges so printed to have been unfounded, save in trivial differences of opinion as to minor details of the management of the school, which have existed between our Superintendent and his assistants, and we take pleasure in vindicating Mr. Loomis with all connection with the charges so made."

Council Committees.

The several standing committees of Councils will meet at two P. M. on the dates mentioned below for organization:

Wednesday—Committees on Water, Legislation and Bridges.

Thursday—Committees on City Property and Markets.

Friday—Committees on Surveys and Police.

Saturday—Committees on Roads and Streets.

Monday—Committees on Printing and Gas.

Tuesday—City Councils meet for the purpose of electing four members of the Board of Guardians of the Poor.

Wednesday, February 7—Committees on Ordinances and Appeals.

Thursday, February 8—Committees on Claims and Monongahela Wharf.

Friday, February 9—Committees on Allegheny Wharf and Railroads.

Saturday, February 10—Committees on Retrenchment and Reform and Wooden Buildings.

Mr. Murphy's Salary.

The meeting of business men called by Mr. Joseph R. Hunter to consider the matter of raising a subscription for Mr. Francis Murphy, was not largely attended. Mr. Hunter's action in this behalf was prompted by a letter from Mr. W. Pickersgill, Jr., offering to be one of fifty persons to contribute $150 each to pay Mr. Murphy for one year's work, or to be one of a like number to pay $150 to make a fund of $7,500 for Mr. Murphy to distribute to the poor of this city. The meeting was held yesterday morning in the Fifth Avenue M. P. Church. Mr. W. T. Dunn presided. Rev. Mr. Landis stated that in an interview with Chancellor Woods he had learned that Mr. Murphy had now charge of his own meetings, the ushers and clothing supply, and made his own contracts—the Young Men's Union having relinquished its connection with the same. After some discussion over Mr. Pickersgill's proposition, a committee consisting of Joseph Dilworth, General J. K. Moorhead and Joseph R. Hunter was appointed to suggest a plan of operations and report at another meeting to be held at eleven o'clock this morning.

It is stated that the ladies have relinquished their idea of insuring Mr. Murphy's life for the benefit of his children, and intend to aid in the project and to give him a stated salary and retain him here under a one year's contract.

The New State Project

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

Members of the City Councils, of the Legislature and possibly editors, too, had better inquire if the act of Assembly passed, I believe in December, 1782, has ever been repealed. I do not believe it has—though probably supposed to be now obsolete. That act declared it to be *treason against the Commonwealth, and punishable with death for anyone to attempt to organize any new State within the chartered boundaries of Pennsylvania.* At that time two projects were in existence. One to form a new State out of Western Pennsylvania, Western Virginia and a portion of what has since been organized as Eastern Ohio—the capital to be Pittsburgh. The other and much more seriously urged was by the defeated Connecticut settlers in Wyoming, Northeastern Pennsylvania. No one in Western Pennsylvania went so far as to attempt an actual organization of a new State here. But the leader of the Wyoming movement, John Franklin, was arrested and indicted in the Supreme Court of the State, and his case continued from time to time—he being held in jail first in Northampton county, and afterwards in Philadelphia for several years. He was pardoned in 1792, and was afterwards Sheriff of Luzerne county, and represented that county in the Senate and House of Representatives for several years. The papers showing this state of things can be found in the 10th, 11th and 12th volumes of the Pennsylvania archives.

We have had three general revisals of our criminal statutes—in 1794, 1829 and 1860—and with none of these has this act making it treason punishable with death been incorporated. The act is not found in Purdon, and I have no doubt is treated as obsolete by non-user. Yet it is quite serious enough to lead persons to inquire about it, especially as it is being discussed in the Legislature. I once spent a day running over the acts of the Legislature to see if any repealing act could be found, and am confident no such exists. No prosecution ever ex'sted under it that I know of, except in the case of John Franklin, begun in 1787 and ended by his pardon in 1792.

T. J. B.

PITTSBURGH, January 29, 1877.

OBITUARY.

DANIEL O'NEILL.

As the press of the city had, from time to time during the past few weeks, reported the serious illness of Mr. Daniel O'Neill, one of the proprietors of the *Dispatch*, the community was not altogether unprepared for the announcement of his death, which took place yesterday forenoon at eleven o'clock, at his residence on Penn avenue, in the East End. As the deceased had been identified with the newspaper business for a period of over twenty five years, and had for ten years conducted with marked ability and success one of the most popular and influential journals in the city, a few facts in the history of one so well known to the public will be read with interest.

Mr. O'Neill was born in County Wexford, Ireland, on the first of January, 1830, and had therefore just entered on his forty-eighth year. He received a good English education, mainly from his father, who was a school teacher, and on reaching his majority left his native land to seek his fortune in America. He came to this city in 1851, "a green Irish boy," without friends and without means, but with a stock of energy and self-reliance which enabled him to work his way and overcome all ordinary difficulties. In December, of the same year, he was employed as assistant reporter on the *Dispatch*, then a small penny daily, still in the first decade of its existence. His business was to copy the lists of arrivals at the several hotels, and to transcribe the telegraphic news—the dispatches, at that early day, not being furnished in bulk. Such was the beginning of his work, and the salary was only five dollars per week—but the work, humble as it was, was faithfully performed, and his employer, the late Colonel J. Heron Foster, with that keen insight which characterized him as a journalist, thought he saw in the young stranger qualities worth cultivating and cultivating. He was not long until the young man was given an opportunity to show whether he had capacity for higher duties, and he acquitted himself so creditably that he was placed in charge of the local department. As a gatherer of the events of the day he was indefatigable, and his style of "dressing up" items and gossip of the community soon established a reputation as a reporter. He had large capacity for work, and while doing full duty on the *Dispatch* furnished partial reports for other papers. On the first of May, 1856, he assumed the position of city editor of the *Evening Chronicle*, and continued to discharge the duties uninterruptedly for eight or nine years. During that time, he embarked in the steamship agency business which he conducted for several years, having an office on Smithfield street. In 1864 he purchased, in connection with Mr. Wm. Anderson, the *Gazette* job printing office, and continued in that business until 1867, when he sold his interest to Hon. Russell Errett. The most important venture of his life, however, was his purchase of an interest in the *Dispatch*, the paper upon which he had spent his first years in the city. In 1863, Mr. Fleeson having died, the sole ownership and control devolved upon Col. Foster. He had created the property, and was soon after appointed Provost Marshal, so that he paper, being left in other hands, was permitted to run down. In February, 1865, Mr. O'Neill, in connection with Mr. A. W. Rook, purchased one-half of the concern from Col. Foster, and from that date onward the paper exhibited the astonishing element of improvement. It was immediately enlarged to almost double its original size, and prospered pecuniarily even beyond the most sanguine expectations of the new proprietors. In 1867 Colonel Foster died, and Messrs. O'Neill & Rook became the sole proprietors.

As a writer, Mr. O'Neill was more vigorous than polished—more trenchant than elegant. He rarely touched upon the higher range of editorial subjects; but upon questions involving local politics, municipal affairs, and cognate topics, he was unusually well informed, and wrote with great force and energy. Whenever he took a position, or espoused a cause, he defended it with unremitting zeal and tenacity, and when occasion called for hard knocks he was not slow to inflict them. As a journalist he was enterprizing, fearless, and independent. He was not unmindful of popular favor, and generally shaped the policy of his paper so as to meet the public approval. His shrewdness and tact, coupled with indomitable industry and perseverance, were the mainsprings of his success. During the past ten years, he made an ample fortune; and it is to be regretted that, after having waited so long and worked so hard to achieve the object of his ambition, he should be called hence in the vigor of manhood, and while just entering upon the enjoyment of the fruits of his toil.

Mr. O'Neill was twice married. After he had been here some years he returned home and married Miss Mary O'Neill, an excellent woman, who shared his joys and lightened his sorrows until 1866, when she died. He subsequently took her remains to Ireland, where they lie interred. Some eight or nine years ago he married Miss Emma Seely, who, with three interesting children, survives him.

In his business relations Mr. O'Neill was prompt, systematic, and even exacting—but he was just and honorable. Socially he was genial and good humored, and entertained his friends with generous hospitality. He was an indulgent husband and father, and in these relations his loss will be most keenly felt.

As a citizen, he took an active interest in the welfare of the city and country of his adoption, but cared little for political preferment. He was a member of City Councils for several terms, and was, for many years, an active member of the Republican party. He was chosen as an elector by the Republican State Convention of 1876, and the last official act of his life was the casting of his vote for Mr. Hayes and Wheeler, at the meeting of he electoral college, at Harrisburg, in December. The deceased had not been in good health for some time, and on his return home he was taken quite ill, and was out of the house but once since then. Some ten days ago the symptoms became alarming, and his physicians expressed fears of a fatal termination. At times he would rally, and his friends became inspirited with fresh hopes, but he finally lapsed into unconsciousness and it became apparent that he could not long survive. He was unconscious for several days, and such was his vitality that hopes were entertained for his recovery as late as Monday night. It was the struggle that preceded dissolution, however. He became easier towards morning, and the final hour approached he calmly passed away, surrounded by his family and friends. His disease was bronchitis, complicated with asthma.

The funeral will take place at two o'clock on Thursday afternoon.

THE CITY FINANCES.

Organization of the New Committee—Important Business Under Consideration.

A meeting of the new Finance Committee of City Councils was held yesterday afternoon in the Controller's office. The committee was organized by the election of Mr. John Shipton Chairman.

Mr. Littell presented the following:

Resolved, That the City Attorney be requested to inform the Finance Committee in writing, at as early a date as possible, what, under the late decision of the Supreme Court, will be the proper legal manner in which to raise funds to pay interest on the Penn avenue indebtedness; whether by taxation or temporary loan.

Adopted.

Mr. Thomson presented the following:

Resolved, That the City Attorney be requested to furnish this committee with his written opinion as to what, if any, legislation will be required to authorize the assessment of the cost of the improvement of streets, done under the Penn avenue act, on the property benefited by such improvement.

Adopted.

The Chair appointed the following subCommittee on Appropriations: Messrs. Littell, Herron, McClurg, Aull, Thomson, Neeb and Wainwright.

Mr. Aull presented the following:

Resolved, That a sub-committee of five be appointed to procure and present for the information of this committee all data possible to obtain for and against the proposed change now pending in the State Legislature in the mode of collecting the municipal taxes.

The resolution was adopted, and Messrs. Aull, Littell, McClarren, Nisbet and Neeb were appointed.

The ordinance referred to the committee by Councils granting the City Treasurer privilege to place the funds of the city in different depositories, in such amounts as he may desire, was taken up for consideration, and Mr. Aull presented a resolution instructing the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance which shall repeal all former ordinances requiring the Treasurer to deposit the funds in stipulated places. The effect of this will be to make it discretionary with the Treasurer what disposition he shall make of the funds, and to make him solely and entirely responsible for the money. The resolution was adopted.

An ordinance providing for the payment of temporary loan bonds now due from the municipal sinking funds was referred to Councils, with an affirmative recommendation, subject to the opinion of the City Attorney. Messrs. Littell, Neeb, Johnston and Herron asked to be recorded in the negative.

The Chair appointed the following Committee on Weigh Scales: Messrs. Littell, Thomson and Neeb.

It was decided that a majority of members shall constitute a quorum, and the Chair was authorized to call all meetings of the committee.

Adjourned.

The Mt. Pleasant Institute.

The Western Pennsylvania Classical and Scientific Institute, at Mt. Pleasant, Pa., during the past six months, has received, independent of what students paid, more than $3,600. It is expected that during the next half year more will be received than during the last. Rev. N. B. Critchfield has accepted the financial agency of the institute. The building now erecting will be ready for occupancy next September. The school will then be prepared to accommodate one hundred and fifty pupils.

WE have tried Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup in our family, and can assert that it is the best remedy for a cough or cold ever introduced. Price twenty-five cents.

THE TEMPERANCE WORK.

The "Old Home" Meeting Last Night—Successful Work at Elizabeth and Elsewhere—Announcements, &c., &c.

Mr. Murphy was again absent from the "Old Home" (Fifth Avenue M. P. Church) last evening, filling an appointment at the Union M. E. Church, Allegheny. The conduct of the meeting, therefore, was in charge of Mr. Joseph R. Hunter. Rev. Scovel conducted the devotional exercises.

Mr. David Gillespie was the first speaker. He thought the temperance movement was characteristic from the fact that it had developed no organized opposition. There was no power under heaven that could oppose the movement. He knew it was predicted that many who have signed the pledge would not keep it, and such may be the case, but if they placed their trust in God he had no fear for their safety.

Thomas Collins was happy to meet his friends. He had been before the public for a long time in various capacities—both drunk and sober. He hoped the public would never see him drunk again.

James H. Conway said he was a tramp; had walked many miles yesterday to get to this city. He had signed the pledge and was determined to keep it. He thought he had got so low that the dogs would not bark at him, but now he intended to make a man of himself once more, and desired all to pray for him.

Rev. Scovel thought it was not necessary to claim this movement as an extraordinary event; it was precisely the same as all other movements in this direction which have had the grace of God in them. He had prayed that the critical periods in this work would be successfully overcome. He thought if every person would be true to himself, a great work for God would be done in this work than has been done. He was glad to say that there was not a church in the city which professed the love of Christ but what would open its doors to the movement and bless God speed. But aside from churches we needed something more to sustain the movement, and we must put our shoulders to the wheels and provide ways that healthful and innocent recreation. He made an earnest and eloquent appeal for all to come and sign the pledge.

Mr. Hunter said that a meeting was held in the basement of the church in regard to keeping Mr. Murphy permanently here, and the result of the conference was that Mr. Murphy intended to visit his family for a short time and would return, but did not know how he would remain.

A leading business man has guaranteed to take the responsibility of providing for Mr. Murphy during his stay in this city, if necessary.

THE HILL BLAZING.

The tenth of the series of the "Young Men's Temperance Union" meetings of the Eleventh and Thirteenth wards was held last night at Rev. Knox's U. P. Church, Wylie avenue, which was one of the best held yet, both in point of numbers and enthusiasm. Rev. W. H. Knox read a portion of Scripture. Chancellor Woods led in prayer, making an earnest appeal to God for his aid and blessing. The choir opened with singing "I am Coming, Lord, to Thee." Chapain McCabe then sang, in his beautiful style, "Rock of Ages." and "The Ninety and Nine."

Walter Kirkpatrick, the conductor of the meeting, then introduced the speaker of the evening, Marshall Swartzwelder, Esq., who delivered one of the most powerful and eloquent addresses we have ever had the pleasure of listening to. It was listened to by the large audience with the most breathless silence for an hour and a quarter, and at the end it seemed too short. His closing appeal to both old and young to come and sign the pledge was an outburst of eloquence.

John A. Reed, in his remarks, was plain and practical, and his advice to the young men of the present day was well taken and very effective. For his own safety he was thankful so far, but as long as the demon intemperance stalked through the land, he felt he was not safe without the help of his Heavenly Heaven.

Professor Pope then sang "Man the Life Boat," a temperance song, and read an original poem, "The Toper's Reformation," which gave great satisfaction to all parties. Chancellor Woods was then called on. His remarks were of a practical nature, giving a brief review of the great work that is now going on. He said that they had distributed upwards of seventy thousand pledges already. He closed with an earnest appeal to those present to come forward and by signing place themselves on the side of the right.

Professor Pope then sang another temperance song to the tune of the "Sweet By and By," and read another original poem dedicated to the young ladies, who he thought were altogether forgotten by the speakers of the evening. It had merit, and a moral that should not be forgotten.

Jack Wilson and Walter Kirkpatrick made brief speeches, speaking words of encouragement and good cheer.

The meeting throughout was well conducted by Mr. Kirkpatrick. There have been over seven hundred signers of the pledge in that locality since the meetings started. A meeting will be held in the same place next Sunday.

THE FIFTH U. P. CHURCH,

of this city, was crowded to overflowing last night, there being a temperance meeting held in this church for the first time during this present movement. The meeting was opened by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Johnston, with reading of scripture and prayer, after which the choir, led by Professor Alexander, sang "Let the lower lights be burning." Mr. Frank Burns was introduced, who took charge of and conducted the meeting. Addresses were made by the following named gentlemen: Rev. H. Miller, Solomon Yeagerborn, W. J. Hicks, John Spratt, Dr. N. McClarren, James Dunn, J. Lemon and others.

One hundred and forty-four names came from this church to join the army gone before in this great movement. These meetings will be continued in this place, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and the following gentlemen are expected to be present. Messrs. M. Swartzwelder, W. C. Moreland, Eccles Robinson, G. McMasters and others.

Mr. Ingram stated that it was no fault of Mr. Murphy's that he was not present as he had promised, for the committee had made such arrangements as to interfere with his coming this evening, but promised to be at this church at some future time.

SOUTH SIDE.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at the Bingham street M. E. Church last evening, H. B. McCurry presiding. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. John Worrall, R. E. Webber, Geo. Eickoff, Wm. Lee and Rev. Deams.

A meeting of the Young Men's Temperance Union will be held at this church at two o'clock Thursday afternoon. Good speakers are promised for to-night.

AT ELIZABETH, PA.

A temperance meeting held in the U. P. church was conducted by Mr. Furgus. After prayer by C. C. Stephens, an address was made by J. B. Johnston, showing the effect of moderate drinking, and as a class the respectable drinkers are the worst class of drinkers.

Captain J. H. Elliott was the next speaker. He had been a moderate drinker for a number of years, and had signed the pledge and by the help of God would keep it.

Mr. Ward next spoke. He had not been a drinking man, but had signed the pledge, as he had seen the effect of drinking in many instances, and knew what it would do if followed up.

Prof. Cheesman pointed out the solemnity of the pledge. He advised all to sign whether drinkers or not.

Rev. Dickey, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, made a stirring address. He urged all to sign. God had made a great difference in men in order that the strong might help the weak. Every man has an influence and is bound to exert it in some way. The great privilege we have is helping our fellow man.

Mr. Hays signed the pledge not because he was a drinker, but to encourage others, and he hoped to see every man sign.

Mr. Gleason had not drank any for two years. Intemperance had almost overcome him, but he had been saved by the crusaders, and he thanked God he had been helped by them, for now he was a happy man and a Christian, and hoped to remain so as long as he lived.

A saloon keeper named R. C. Snowden signed the pledge and will quit the business. Also some forty others signed, making in all 49.

A temperance meeting will be held in the First Presbyterian Church (Dr. Swift's), Arch street, Allegheny, Wednesday evening, and will be presided over by Algernon S. Bell, Esq. Addresses will be made by George Hall, Joseph Supples, Harry Miller, John E. Patterson, James M. Craig, James Wright, Samuel Ferguson and others.

Local Option County Convention.

This convention will assemble in Lafayette Hall, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, Thursday morning, February 1, at ten o'clock.

Rev. S. H. Nesbit, D. D., Chairman of the County Executive Committee, will call the meeting to order, when a permanent Chairman will be elected. After organization, Dr. George K Ormond, Chairman of the State Executive Committee, will make a statement of the movement in the Legislature and the State.

There will be three sessions of the convention—morning, afternoon and evening. Dr. Snyder, pastor of Emory M. E. church, will open the discussion in the morning session, and will be followed by others. Rev. W. H. Gill will open the discussion in the afternoon, and Rev. I. C. Pershing, D. D., in the evening.

During the day and evening Hon. Felix R. Brunot, Hon. S. A. Purviance, Rev. S. M. Vernon, Rev. C. E. Felton, Miss F. E. Willard, Miss Lee A. Starr, Rev. Marcus Ormond and other prominent speakers will address the meeting. The Executive Committee have some prospects of securing the services of Chaplain McCabe for the occasion. If they succeed in doing so the exercises will be interspersed with his soul-stirring songs.

Suicide on the South Side.

The dead body of Nicholas Pitts was found yesterday afternoon suspended by the neck in a stable in the rear of his residence, No. 1913 Mary street, Twenty-sixth ward. The Coroner held an inquest, the jury returning a verdict of suicide. The deceased was about fifty-three years of age, and leaves a wife and three children, the youngest aged about twelve. Pitts followed the occupation of a milk dealer. It is thought that financial troubles caused the commission of the act.

THE NATION TRUST COMPLICATION.

A Batch of Suits Brought Yesterday.

William B. Negley, Esq., trustee for the city in the Nation Trust Company complication, has instituted suits against a number of parties in Common Pleas Court No. 1 to recover on notes and mortgages given by said parties in pursuance of the compromise with the city and stockholders. It seems from the statement of Major Negley that these parties have been unable to fulfill their obligations, and when the money for the first payment to the city was raised, they did not contribute to that fund in consequence of their inability to do so. The trustees have, therefore, found it necessary to bring suit against the following parties:

Against Dr. Jacob Ahl for $825 with interest; Wm. Crawford, Jr., for $500; Henry Otto, $625; Peter Laddeburn, $125; Thomas Harris, $349; Michael C. Kane, $750; Patrick Trainor, $125; Wm. Smith, $2,500; Charles H. Armstrong, $18 537 50.

All of the above suits are upon promissory notes made June 15, 1875, and payable at the Citizens' National Bank June 15, 1876.

The following suits are upon mortgages given in to secure the creditors in pursuance of the compromise agreement: Against Henry Otto, $2,674 17; against John Dickson, Robert Dickson, Thomas C. Dickson, Joseph C. Dickson, T. D. Stewart, Mary Lewis, A. Lewis, administrator, John S. Stewart, Jr., C. A. Stewart, Jos. B. Stewart, Jennie C. Stewart and Eliza Ann Stewart, partners as Dickson, Stewart & Co. Amount of claim, $93 596 01.

The Prothonotary issued the necessary papers and they are now in the hands of the Sheriff for execution.

ALLEGHENY REPUBLICANS.

Suggestion Meeting in the First Ward.

A suggestion meeting of the Republicans of the First ward, Allegheny, was held at the school house last evening, A. D. Smith in the Chair and Sam. D. Hubley as Secretary.

Resolutions were read and adopted as follows:

Resolved, That the Republican representatives in Councils from this ward be and they are hereby instructed to use all honorable means in their power to favor an exclusive Republican caucus for the nomination of city officers at the next annual election for said offices.

Resolved, That all candidates for Councils be required to pledge themselves to abide by the above resolution before the day appointed for the primaries.

The tickets nominated was as follows:

For Mayor—W. Woolsey, Thomas Metzgraw, W. C. Cooke.

Select Council—James P. Spear.

School Directors—Hon. James L. Graham and Robert Thompson.

Assessor—W. H. Rapp.

First district—Judge of Election, Austin S. Clark; Inspectors, John P. Irwin; Election Assessor, Robert Pitcairn.

Second district—Judge, R. S. Thompson; Inspector, James Woods; Election Assessor, Edward Smith.

Third district—Judge, David Barker; Inspector, J. M. Cunningham; Election Assessor, Charles Wall; Constable, Oliver Cornelius.

The meeting adjourned to meet at same place on Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock to hear reports of committee appointed.

COURT PROCEEDINGS.

United States District Court—Judge Ketchum.

H. B. Claflin & Co. *et al.* vs. Bridge & Skiles, Venango county. Order made for a hearing upon motion for an injunction on the 20th prox., and meantime restraining D. J. Bridge.

An argument was had on motion for an injunction against J. N. Croft *et al.*, by Mr. Miller for and Mr. Lee against the same, and further arguments continued. On motion, reference was made to Register Rogers to ascertain whether the statutory number and value of creditors have joined in the petition for adjudication; also to ascertain whether the list of creditors is correct.

William Peter, bankrupt, Allegheny City. Order made for hearing on bankrupt's petition for discharge before Register Shafer on the 20th prox.

H. Clay Minor & Son, bankrupts, Greene county. Order made for sale of real estate discharged of liens.

Thomas Collins was happy to meet his friends. He had been before the public for a long time in various capacities—both drunk and sober. He hoped the public would never see him drunk again.

James H. Conway said he was a tramp; had walked many miles yesterday to get to this city. He had signed the pledge and was determined to keep it. He thought he had got so low that the dogs would not bark at him, but now he intended to make a man of himself once more, and desired all to pray for him.

Rev. Scovel thought it was not necessary to claim this movement as an extraordinary event; it was precisely the same as all other movements in this direction which have had the grace of God in them. He had prayed that the critical periods in this work would be successfully overcome. He thought if every person would be true to himself, a great work for God would be done in this work than has been done. He was glad to say that there was not a church in the city which professed the love of Christ but what would open its doors to the movement and bless God speed. But aside from churches we needed something more to sustain the movement, and we must put our shoulders to the wheels and provide ways that healthful and innocent recreation. He made an earnest and eloquent appeal for all to come and sign the pledge.

Mr. Hunter said that a meeting was held in the basement of the church in regard to keeping Mr. Murphy permanently here, and the result of the conference was that Mr. Murphy intended to visit his family for a short time and would return, but did not know how he would remain.

A leading business man has guaranteed to take the responsibility of providing for Mr. Murphy during his stay in this city, if necessary.

THE HILL BLAZING.

The tenth of the series of the "Young Men's Temperance Union" meetings of the Eleventh and Thirteenth wards was held last night at Rev. Knox's U. P. Church, Wylie avenue, which was one of the best held yet, both in point of numbers and enthusiasm. Rev. W. H. Knox read a portion of Scripture. Chancellor Woods led in prayer, making an earnest appeal to God for his aid and blessing. The choir opened with singing "I am Coming, Lord, to Thee." Chapain McCabe then sang, in his beautiful style, "Rock of Ages." and "The Ninety and Nine."

Walter Kirkpatrick, the conductor of the meeting, then introduced the speaker of the evening, Marshall Swartzwelder, Esq., who delivered one of the most powerful and eloquent addresses we have ever had the pleasure of listening to. It was listened to by the large audience with the most breathless silence for an hour and a quarter, and at the end it seemed too short. His closing appeal to both old and young to come and sign the pledge was an outburst of eloquence.

John A. Reed, in his remarks, was plain and practical, and his advice to the young men of the present day was well taken and very effective. For his own safety he was thankful so far, but as long as the demon intemperance stalked through the land, he felt he was not safe without the help of his Heavenly Heaven.

Professor Pope then sang "Man the Life Boat," a temperance song, and read an original poem, "The Toper's Reformation," which gave great satisfaction to all parties. Chancellor Woods was then called on. His remarks were of a practical nature, giving a brief review of the great work that is now going on. He said that they had distributed upwards of seventy thousand pledges already. He closed with an earnest appeal to those present to come forward and by signing place themselves on the side of the right.

Professor Pope then sang another temperance song to the tune of the "Sweet By and By," and read another original poem dedicated to the young ladies, who he thought were altogether forgotten by the speakers of the evening. It had merit, and a moral that should not be forgotten.

Jack Wilson and Walter Kirkpatrick made brief speeches, speaking words of encouragement and good cheer.

The meeting throughout was well conducted by Mr. Kirkpatrick. There have been over seven hundred signers of the pledge in that locality since the meetings started. A meeting will be held in the same place next Sunday.

THE FIFTH U. P. CHURCH,

of this city, was crowded to overflowing last night, there being a temperance meeting held in this church for the first time during this present movement. The meeting was opened by the pastor, Rev. J. M. Johnston, with reading of scripture and prayer, after which the choir, led by Professor Alexander, sang "Let the lower lights be burning." Mr. Frank Burns was introduced, who took charge of and conducted the meeting. Addresses were made by the following named gentlemen: Rev. H. Miller, Solomon Yeagerborn, W. J. Hicks, John Spratt, Dr. N. McClarren, James Dunn, J. Lemon and others.

One hundred and forty-four names came from this church to join the army gone before in this great movement. These meetings will be continued in this place, Wednesday and Thursday evenings, and the following gentlemen are expected to be present. Messrs. M. Swartzwelder, W. C. Moreland, Eccles Robinson, G. McMasters and others.

Mr. Ingram stated that it was no fault of Mr. Murphy's that he was not present as he had promised, for the committee had made such arrangements as to interfere with his coming this evening, but promised to be at this church at some future time.

SOUTH SIDE.

A large and enthusiastic meeting was held at the Bingham street M. E. Church last evening, H. B. McCurry presiding. Addresses were delivered by Messrs. John Worrall, R. E. Webber, Geo. Eickoff, Wm. Lee and Rev. Deams.

A meeting of the Young Men's Temperance Union will be held at this church at two o'clock Thursday afternoon. Good speakers are promised for to-night.

AT ELIZABETH, PA.

A temperance meeting held in the U. P. church was conducted by Mr. Furgus. After prayer by C. C. Stephens, an address was made by J. B. Johnston, showing the effect of moderate drinking, and as a class the respectable drinkers are the worst class of drinkers.

Captain J. H. Elliott was the next speaker. He had been a moderate drinker for a number of years, and had signed the pledge and by the help of God would keep it.

Mr. Ward next spoke. He had not been a drinking man, but had signed the pledge, as he had seen the effect of drinking in many instances, and knew what it would do if followed up.

Prof. Cheesman pointed out the solemnity of the pledge. He advised all to sign whether drinkers or not.

Rev. Dickey, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, made a stirring address. He urged all to sign. God had made a great difference in men in order that the strong might help the weak. Every man has an influence and is bound to exert it in some way. The great privilege we have is helping our fellow man.

Mr. Hays signed the pledge not because he was a drinker, but to encourage others, and he hoped to see every man sign.

Mr. Gleason had not drank any for two years. Intemperance had almost overcome him, but he had been saved by the crusaders, and he thanked God he had been helped by them, for now he was a happy man and a Christian, and hoped to remain so as long as he lived.

A saloon keeper named R. C. Snowden signed the pledge and will quit the business. Also some forty others signed, making in all 49.

A temperance meeting will be held in the First Presbyterian Church (Dr. Swift's), Arch street, Allegheny, Wednesday evening, and will be presided over by Algernon S. Bell, Esq. Addresses will be made by George Hall, Joseph Supples, Harry Miller, John E. Patterson, James M. Craig, James Wright, Samuel Ferguson and others.

Local Option County Convention.

This convention will assemble in Lafayette Hall, corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, Thursday morning, February 1, at ten o'clock.

Rev. S. H. Nesbit, D. D., Chairman of the County Executive Committee, will call the meeting to order, when a permanent Chairman will be elected. After organization, Dr. George K Ormond, Chairman of the State Executive Committee, will make a statement of the movement in the Legislature and the State.

There will be three sessions of the convention—morning, afternoon and evening. Dr. Snyder, pastor of Emory M. E. church, will open the discussion in the morning session, and will be followed by others. Rev. W. H. Gill will open the discussion in the afternoon, and Rev. I. C. Pershing, D. D., in the evening.

During the day and evening Hon. Felix R. Brunot, Hon. S. A. Purviance, Rev. S. M. Vernon, Rev. C. E. Felton, Miss F. E. Willard, Miss Lee A. Starr, Rev. Marcus Ormond and other prominent speakers will address the meeting. The Executive Committee have some prospects of securing the services of Chaplain McCabe for the occasion. If they succeed in doing so the exercises will be interspersed with his soul-stirring songs.

Suicide on the South Side.

The dead body of Nicholas Pitts was found yesterday afternoon suspended by the neck in a stable in the rear of his residence, No. 1913 Mary street, Twenty-sixth ward. The Coroner held an inquest, the jury returning a verdict of suicide. The deceased was about fifty-three years of age, and leaves a wife and three children, the youngest aged about twelve. Pitts followed the occupation of a milk dealer. It is thought that financial troubles caused the commission of the act.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

Pittsburgh Opera House.

"Neck and Neck," Mr. Stetson's great sensational play, was witnessed last evening by a fair audience, and all the thrilling scenes were vociferously applauded. It will be repeated to night.

One of the most interesting events of the present dramatic season will be the production, next week, of Mr. W. S. Gilbert's new and successful play of "Dan'l Druce." The scenes of the play are laid during and after the "parliamentary times" of the Cromwellian era in England, and are full of the most intense interest and wonderful dramatic power. The first act introduces *Dan'l Druce*, once a well-to-do blacksmith, but now an outcast and miser, made so by the desertion of his wife, whom he deeply loved. A royalist colonel, flying with his three year old daughter and the only man left of his regiment, after the battle of Worcester, takes refuge in *Dan'l's* rude hut, and sends him after food. *Dan'l* betrays them to the soldiery, but they fly, leaving the little girl behind with a note, promising rich reward for her safe keeping, and her mother's locket attached to her neck. Fourteen years elapse, and *Dorothy*, the child, has grown to woman hood, and won *Dan'l* back to a better life. He fears she may marry and leave him, but she answers him she will never part from him. *Geoffrey Wynyard*, an old play mate of hers, returns from sea, meets and makes love to her, and successfully pleads his ring on her finger and she giving him her mother's locket. Meantime *Sir Jasper Combe, Dorothy's* father, restored to his rights and property, comes on the scene and claims his daughter. It is here where the scenes are laid, and offers *Geoffrey* a place as his secretary. *Reuben Haines, Sir Jasper's* companion in his flight, is left behind, stops at *Dan'l's* smithy on an errand, and makes love to *Dorothy*. *Dan'l*, recognizing *Sir Jasper* and fearing that he may discover *Dorothy's* identity and claim her, urges *Geoffrey* to marry her immediately, to which he consents. While in company with *Reuben*, *Geoffrey* drops a locket, which the latter seizes and recognizes. *Dan'l* and *Dorothy* witness the scene and listen to *Geoffrey's* explanation as to how he came into possession of the locket, and believing that he has dealt rightly with her love, both reproach him, and bid him depart. *Dan'l* makes up his mind to steal away from the place, taking *Dorothy* with him. *Reuben Haines* comes with a proposition to wed *Dorothy*, and he later is entreated by her reputed father to consent, which she finally does, as says her heart will break. *Druce* changes his mind, orders *Reuben* from the house and tells him to do his worst. *Reuben* then informs *Sir Jasper* of his discovery, and tells him where he can find his daughter